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ARRANGEMENTS have been made to launch the steel cruiser *Chicago* at Chester at 11.15 o'clock Saturday. She was to have been launched Dec. 3, but the bad weather which has prevailed for the previous week prevented the workmen from completing the final arrangements in time. A large party from Washington, including the Secretary of the Navy, the Advisory Board, heads of Bureaus, and Congressmen will, it is expected, be present.

THE Attorney General in an opinion dated November 2, 1885, upon the question as to whether "a member of Congress can lawfully be accepted as a bondsman on a contract with the Government," quotes the law on the subject, Sections 3739, 3740, and 3741, Revised Statutes of 1878, and says: "I am of the opinion, therefore, that, upon a fair construction of the statute, a member of, or delegate to, Congress may be lawfully accepted as a bondsman on a contract with the Government, in the case mentioned."

THE first practical result of Lieutenant General SHERIDAN's trip to Arizona is the transfer of the District of New Mexico from the Department of the Missouri to the Department of Arizona, which places it under General CROOK, who issued his formal order assuming command December 1. This of course, gives General CROOK greater freedom of action, and we do not doubt that approaching results will clearly demonstrate that General SHERIDAN's confidence in General CROOK being "the right man in the right place," has not been unthinkingly given.

THE recent arrest in a private house at Washington of a deserter from the Signal Corps has brought into prominence the opinion rendered by the Acting Judge Advocate-General of the Army, approved June 23, 1885, which it is well to bear in mind. It is as follows:

The warrant of authority to arrest offending and fugitive soldiers inheres from the very nature of our military service, where written warrants are unknown, and arrests may be made by such persons in the military service as may be directed to make them by competent authority. Persons so empowered may force an entrance into the houses of third persons, in cases where the parties sought to be arrested have taken refuge therein, after having, however, first notified the occupants of the purpose for which admission is requested and demanded.

ALL the claims thus far filed of officers and men of the Navy and Marine Corps for three months' extra pay for Mexican War Service, under the NORTH decision, have been settled by the accounting of the Treasury, with the exception of a few isolated cases where additional evidence is required. There are many who are entitled to benefits under the decision referred to that have not filed their claims, and the Treasury officials have no means of reaching them. It was estimated that there would be about 8,000 claimants (officers and men). Hardly one-half that number have presented their claims.

BEFORE Secretary WHITNEY left Washington for Indianapolis on Monday, to attend the funeral of Vice-President HENDRICKS, he directed that officers be ordered to the *Dolphin* without delay, that she might be put in readiness for a sea trial trip as soon as possible. So much has been said about the *Dolphin*, and the Secretary's attitude towards her and her contractors, that he was desirous of having the

preparations for her trial trip made quietly, and accordingly nothing was to be said about the detail of officers at present. Their names did not appear among the details announced on the day upon which they were ordered to the *Dolphin*. Captain RICHARD W. MEADE was detached from the Naval Examining Board and ordered to command the *Dolphin*. The other officers ordered for duty on her were Lieutenant C. O. ALLBONE; Lieutenant T. C. MCLEAN, detached from the *Brooklyn*; Ensign F. H. SHERMAN, detached from the Coast Survey; Passed Assistant Surgeon J. H. GAINES, detached from the Washington Naval Hospital, and Assistant Paymaster L. C. KERR.

THE *Herald* of Dec. 2 published the statement that the S. S. *Miranda*, which cleared from this port on Monday "for Cork," carried in her cargo the rather large shipment of 120,000 stand of small arms, consigned to the Turkish Government, and that the final destination of the vessel was Constantinople. It is not the custom of consignors or shipping agents to be very communicative to reporters, and especially when war material is the subject of inquiry. The fact is that the *Miranda* did carry away a very considerable number of PEABODY-MARTINI rifles, and that they were consigned to the Turkish Government. The rifles were 48,000 stand, being the balance of the 600,000 made for the Sultan by the Providence Tool Co. some years ago, and held in this city since 1879 as security for bankers' advances. In addition to the rifles there were also shipped 77,000 bayonets. The rumor last week that the Porte had closed a contract in this country for 200,000 repeating arms is correct only so far as that such an order is under consideration.

THE space we devote to the annual report of the Secretary of the Navy forbids lengthened comment upon it. It is not necessary that we should direct the attention of our naval readers to it, and those less interested in naval matters will find it well worth their consideration. It is evident that Mr. WHITNEY has made a careful preliminary study of the situation with which he has to deal since he came into the Department in March last. His feet now rest upon the solid foundation of knowledge, and we hope he will be able to lift our Navy out of the mire. We trust that his views will meet with the approval of Congress, and that there will be no faction fight against him. Our information is that there will not be, and that the leading members of the House, in both parties, who understand the situation of our Navy, are ready to join the Secretary in carrying out any scheme for reorganizing the Navy Department and rebuilding the Navy, that promises success. Give the Secretary the money to rebuild the Navy; leave him as much freedom as possible for action, and hold him and his party to a strict accountability for the result. In no other way shall we ever get a navy. We are glad to note the judicial tone that pervades the Secretary's report, and the absence of an attempt to make capital at the expense of his political opponents, further than this may be done legitimately by showing a better comprehension of what is needed. It is the system of administration that first of all needs correction, as Mr. WHITNEY so clearly shows, and that system is an inheritance of the "days before the war." Any man, and any party, that will restore the prestige of our Navy will deserve the confidence of the country, and we do not doubt that it will receive it.

The Secretary's specific proposition is for a reorganization of his department, with a secretary and an assistant secretary, and three persons under them in control of the three natural divisions of the department, viz., finance, construction and personnel.

THE following is a complete list of Army officers found incapacitated for active service by retiring boards, who have not been retired: Asst.-Surgeons J. W. Buell, W. R. Steinmetz, J. V. DeHanne, and Joseph Y. Porter; Capt. Geo. M. Wheeler, Engrs.; Major Lewis Merrill, 7th Cav.; Capt. Chas. Bendire and Wm. R. Parnell, 1st Cav.; Capt. Henry Sweeney and Chas. M. Callahan, 4th Cav.; Capt. J. Scott Payne, 5th Cav.; Capt. Chas. G. Gordon, 6th Cav.; Capt. Geo. F. Foote, 8th Cav.; Capt. John Hamilton, 1st Inf.; Capt. Mason Jackson and John Whitney, 11th Inf.; Capt. Wm. H. Vinal, 16th Inf.; Capt. Geo. W. Evans, 21st Inf.; Capt. E. J. Stivers, 25th Inf., (is commanding a company at Fort Snelling, Minn., appears to have recovered); 1st Lieut. Wm. A. Dinwiddie, 2d Cav.; 1st Lt. H. H. Bellas, 4th Cav.; 1st Lieut. David J. Gibbon, 9th Cav.; 1st Lieut. W. R. Harmon, 10th Cav.; 1st Lieut. Wm. T. Howard, 2d Art.; 1st Lieut. Hugh T. Reade, 1st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Chas. B. Thompson, 5th Inf., (is on duty, appears to have recovered); 1st Lt. Edw. Lynch, 8th Inf., (is on duty with his company); 1st Lt. Thad. H. Capron, 9th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Alfred M. Raphall, 11th Inf.; 1st Lieut. D. B. Taylor, 11th Inf., (is on light duty at station of his company); 1st Lieut. Geo. W. Kingsbury, 12th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Geo. K. Spencer, 19th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Thos. W. Lord, (is on duty with his company); 1st Lieut. Palmer Tilton, 20th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Robt. H. Fletcher, 21st Inf., (is on light duty at San Diego, Cal.); 2d Lieut. John T. Barnett, 5th Cav.

THE terms of service, as instructors in military science and tactics at State colleges and universities, of the following Army officers will expire during the year 1886: 1st Lieut. Charles A. L. Totten, 4th Art., Cathedral School of St. Paul, Garden City, L. I., August 4, 1886; 1st Lieutenant H. W. Hubbell, Jr., 1st Artillery, Union College, Schenectady, September 13, 1886; 1st Lieutenant W. S. Schuyler, 5th Cavalry, Cornell University, Ithaca, October 1, 1886; 2d Lieutenant J. A. Leyden, Pennsylvania State College, Centre Co., July 1, 1886; 2d Lieutenant J. B. Batchelor, Jr., Bingham School, Orange Co., N. C., September 3, 1886; 1st Lieutenant E. M. Weaver, Jr., 2d Artillery, South Carolina Military Academy, Charleston, October 1, 1886; 2d Lieutenant W. L. Buck, 13th Infantry, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Mississippi, Oktibbeha Co., February 24, 1886; 2d Lieutenant John S. Mallory, 2d Infantry, Agricultural and Mechanical College, Texas, Brazos Co., October 3, 1886; 2d Lieutenant R. W. Dowdy, 17th Infantry, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, August 15, 1886; 1st Lieutenant C. G. Starr, 1st Infantry, S. Illinois University, Carbondale, July 1, 1886; 2d Lieutenant C. McClure, 18th Infantry, University of Illinois, Champaign, July 1, 1886; 1st Lieutenant S. R. Jones, 4th Artillery, Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, August 22, 1886; 2d Lieutenant J. B. Goe, 13th Infantry, De Pauw University, Greencastle, July 1, 1886; 1st Lieutenant E. C. Knower, 3d Artillery, Iowa State University, Iowa City, July 1, 1886; 1st Lieutenant James A. Hutton, University of California, Berkeley, May 9, 1886. In 1887 fourteen officers will complete their three years' tour, and in 1888, ten.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

We are in receipt of the first annual report of the present Secretary of the Navy, Mr. W. C. Whitney, which has naturally been looked for with special interest. The first half of the report is occupied with the usual routine matters; a statement of the present status of the vessels in commission; a summing up of the annual bureau reports, the substance of which has already appeared here, and a statement of expenditures and estimates. The estimates for the Navy for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887, amount to \$15,104,095.15, in which sum are embraced estimates for new objects, not those ordinarily for the Service, amounting to \$16,069,950.24, leaving for the customary purposes of the Service \$19,034,144.91. They embrace for increase of the Navy \$10,503,770; for the completion and armament of the double-turreted monitors, \$4,202,656; and for public works and improvements at the yards and stations, \$4,268,337.41.

The total net expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1886, were \$13,337,867.72, or \$2,353,645.73 less than the appropriations and \$977,755.55 less than the net amount drawn in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1884. For the current year \$4,235,764.39 had been drawn Nov. 1, or \$97,480.54 less than the net amount during the same period of last year. For the remaining eight months there was available \$9,304,940.56.

The bureau recommendations which received the approval of the Secretary are those for putting the navy-yards in repair; for building two apprentice ships; for the purchase of necessary supplies for the Bureau of Navigation; for preparation of naval war records; for the selection of a new ordnance proving ground; for an appropriation to erect the new observatory. The Secretary urges that the 400 men of the Coast Survey and Fish Commission be provided for independently of its quota of the Navy and he says:

Certain other changes in the legislation in regard to enlisted men are urgently needed. A comparison of the statutes relating to enlisted men in the Army and Navy shows that the latter Service is placed in many ways at a great disadvantage. Honorably discharged men should be allowed to elect a home on board receiving ships during the three months allowed by law to re-enlist. The statute relating to the admission to citizenship of aliens enlisted in the Army should be extended to cover naval enlistments, and authority should be given to commissioned officers of the Navy to administer the oath of allegiance to the men. The recruit, upon enlistment, should receive his clothing outfit from the Government, instead of becoming, as at present, a debtor to the Government to the amount of three months' pay. Appropriations should be made for the purchase of reading matter for the crews. Provision should be made for the retirement of seamen after thirty years of service, as is now done in the Army and Marine Corps. Finally, the savings bank system, introduced in the Army by statute in 1872, with excellent results, should be applied to the Navy.

The War College is referred to as filling what has hitherto been a serious want in our system of naval education. It is recommended that Decoration Day be added to the list of legal holidays, so that the per diem laborers may have an opportunity of participating in the commemoration of those who fell during the late war without being deprived of a portion of their livelihood.

A brief summary is given of our naval operations in March last at Panama, and we are told that the officers and men discharged their duty in a highly satisfactory manner.

Among the results of these naval operations upon the Isthmus, by no means the least gratifying, has been the establishment of still closer and more friendly relations with a sister republic, while our commercial and other interests in Central America have been strengthened, and an additional guarantee of security has been given to the mercantile enterprise of Americans in this quarter. It is largely for the purpose of protecting the mercantile marine and for assisting its healthy development that the Navy exists; and there are reasons for believing that its services on the Isthmus during the months of April and May last will have important and far-reaching consequences in this direction.

A brief statement is made of the preliminary work on the new cruisers. In gathering information and plans from abroad, the Department has received important aid from Commander Chadwick, the Naval Attaché at London, as well as from Lieutenant Jacques, while acting as the secretary of the Senate Committee on Ordnance.

Within the next thirty days it is believed that the plans will be sufficiently advanced as to justify the commencement of the advertisements, and it is perhaps well that attention should be called to the fact that the ships are likely to be finished at a period long prior to the probable completion of their armament. There is a growing interest in the matter of this Government work, and the field of the bidders will, I think, be larger than ever before. Several large builders of engines and machinery have expressed a desire to be permitted to compete for the construction of the machinery of the new ships, and it may be decided to separate the hull and her fittings from the machinery in the advertisement, as is sometimes done in other countries. In that event the field of the bidders would probably be greatly increased.

THE DOLPHIN, BOSTON, ATLANTA, AND CHICAGO.

With reference to these vessels, the Secretary says: "They constituted the first attempt of the Navy Department for many years to construct a war vessel up to the modern requirements. They should be looked upon and judged as such. As such they will, I trust, be found in the main creditable to those who have been engaged in their creation. They will certainly, if they have been well built, be an improvement upon the previous work of the Department, but it is not profitable to consider them as standards of excellence for future work, nor was it to be expected that they would be. It is to be regretted (I think all will now accede to this suggestion) that greater deliberation was not had over the preparation of the plans."

The *Dolphin*, as she now is, should be regarded as a pleasure boat rather than a despatch boat. The absence of the most ordinary and approved devices for protection against hostile fire in her design take her out of the category of war vessels. The use for instance of vertical engines, exposing her machinery above the water-line in a vessel without armor protection, is far from being good practice at this time. In fact, she does not bear favorable comparison with similar vessels built at about the same time by other countries. (A comparison with H. M. S. *Surprise* is given in proof of this.) She doubtless would not be thought worthy of duplication at the present time by any one. An account of the formation of the Examination Board follows. The Secretary says:

There was selected Commodore Bolnap, unknown to me, whose reputation is second to none of his rank in the Service; Comdr. Evans, who for some time had been engaged

in the inspection of steel at the city of Pittsburgh, and who possessed a high reputation for knowledge and experience in that regard; and Mr. Herman Winter, a marine engineer known to me to be of the highest standing, character and reputation. No other expectation was entertained but that their examination would justify an immediate acceptance of the vessel. On April 7, contemporaneously with the appointment of the Examining Board, I addressed the contractor calling his attention to the effect that he had made no reply to that portion of my letter of March 20, suggesting another trial for the *Dolphin*. It is proper for me to say in justice to the contractor that he afterwards stated to me that my first letter of March 20, containing a suggestion of another trial, he considered to be merely suggestive and not requiring an answer, and that he had no recollection of having received the second letter of April 7 calling his attention to the fact that he had not answered my former letter. Upon May 5, after about six weeks' silence, he suggested that a trial should be had; and in accordance with his request Long Island Sound was assigned as the place of trial, and his request that the Advisory Board should be present was also acquiesced in. Two unsuccessful attempts at a trial subsequently ensued, after each of which the contractor desired a further opportunity, to which I acceded. At one of these interviews, referred to by me in a letter of May 22, to the contractor, he stated that the boat had not the speed nor the horse-power contemplated by the contract, but denied responsibility therefore.

A comparison given of the report of the Examining Board with the reply of the Advisory Board, shows, the Secretary thinks, "that the action of the Department in causing an investigation to be made had been fully justified by the admissions made by all the parties of defects then existing in the ship. This left the question of whether the loose inspection which these defects indicated had existed throughout the construction; and with regard to this it was, of course, quite difficult to satisfactorily ascertain, except inferentially."

The decision of the Attorney-General as to the responsibility of the contractor is referred to, but not commented upon. The circumstances under which the reservations upon the contracts were surrendered are stated, and the Secretary says: "By these processes something over the sum of \$200,000 Government moneys had been advanced to the contractor, and all of the five contracts were substantially stripped of the security which by the terms of the contracts was provided. These acts produced an unfavorable impression upon me, inasmuch as I was unable to see that the grounds upon which these moneys were surrendered were substantial. At the same time, it is proper for me to say that I believe the participation of the officers of the Department therein had been in good faith, and with no expectation that the interests of the Government would be imperilled thereby. It had for some time been no secret in the Department, as I subsequently learned, that the contractor was in financial difficulty, and the departures from the law had been made under the pressure of these circumstances. The assignment of the contractor developed the fact that he had been carrying an indebtedness of over \$2,200,000, largely upon unavaliable assets. The assignment rendered entirely clear the duty of the Government. There was no other course but to take the vessels and complete them. This was the wish of the contractor and the duty of the Government at the same time. . . . I have taken the responsibility of placing the Government in the position which it ought to assume. If the ship is the Government's design, the contractor should be held to correct construction, but not for the performance of the ship. If the design is the contractor's, as in England is often the case, then the contractor may properly be held for both. The contracts should be clearly expressed to this effect."

"The *Dolphin* case remains, therefore, to be disposed of upon proof to be supplied to the court upon these points."

"I have, in addition, taken measures to ascertain and settle the question as to her strength. If she proves well built in that regard the other matters of dispute can be, I think, settled by agreement or arbitration out of court."

"As to the *Boston*, *Atlanta*, and *Chicago*. . . . It is of no use to discuss the character of the boats, their merits or demerits. Under the present circumstances all that the Government can do from a business point of view is to complete them. Whatever they turn out to be they will demonstrate in practice."

On other subjects the Secretary says:

PROMOTIONS IN THE SERVICE.

The rewards which the Service affords at the present time for the more meritorious officers are inadequate. I commend to your attention the considerations advanced upon the subject of promotion in the Service by my predecessor in office in his annual reports of 1882 and 1884. Some remedy should be found for the long delay in promotions and the inequality therein which will result from the working out of the present laws. I shall hereafter make it the subject of special attention, in the hope that some method may be found by which, without additional burdens to the Treasury, the rewards for superior attainments in the Service may, in time of peace as in war, be distributed by some just system, and the tone and spirit of the Service be kept up.

FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS FOR NEW SHIPS.

A most intelligent effort has been made by Congress within the last three years to gather information upon the subjects of heavy ordnance and war ships, and as to the best method of developing in the United States the industries connected therewith. The elaborate and most valuable investigations of the committees of the two houses and of the Fortifications Board in the present year, will place the country in the possession of the latest information, and, I doubt not, mark an era in the history of legislation upon these subjects. I refrain, therefore, from any discussion at the present time of the subject of future appropriations for material of war. Indeed, so many and most formidable implements of war have become now so well established and approved that at the present time any movement on the part of our Government in any direction would, if intelligently executed, prove of incalculable importance to our naval strength and power. Cruising ships, however, we must have, unless the policy of continuing repairs upon worthless ships is to continue, or unless we are to abandon the national duty of affording the security and protection of our presence and power throughout the world wherever our people sojourn. I commend to your consideration the re-

commendations of the bureau officers of the department upon these subjects.

In order to illustrate the importance attached elsewhere to the torpedo-boat as a branch of naval warfare, I insert a list of those possessed and in process of construction by other countries. The United States has none:

Nation.	In service 1884.	Ordered for 1885.	Remarks.
England...	129	55	Does not include those in colonies.
Germany...	11	61	Fleet to be increased to 150 of first class.
France...	82	77	Fleet to number 233 in all.
Russia...	181	14	Fleet to number 180 in all.
Austria...	14	2	Fleet to number 70 in all.
Denmark...	12		To build 21 more.
Greece...	37		
Italy...	53	18	To build 100 more.
China...	5	10	One of these is to be 164 feet long.
Japan...			The largest boat under construction, 166 feet long, is now building for Japan by Yarrow and Co. Others are building in Germany.

THE FLEET AT THE NEW ORLEANS EXHIBITION.

In connection with this subject it is proper to call attention to the fact that in a time of peace the Navy is the agency through which largely national courtesies and hospitalities are exchanged throughout the world. It is somewhat the custom of other nations to avail of their navy as a means of creating and extending national good-will, and fleet officers are frequently supplied by their Governments with reasonable means for reciprocating official courtesies. Without some such provision these burdens would fall sometimes with undue severity upon officers of small means. It has been the custom of the Department to reimburse them certain expenditures in those lines, but under recent rulings of the Treasury Department it may be necessary to discontinue this custom. It may well be considered by Congress whether a small sum may not judiciously be allowed annually for this purpose, to be accounted for under direction of the Secretary. From three to five thousand dollars would probably be in excess of the annual amount to be required. It is a small sum, but the burden falls upon fleet commanders largely, of which there are but five, who are thus pecuniarily punished for their high rank and station of duty.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Thus closes the resumé of the proceedings of the Department for the fiscal year, most of which occurred under my predecessor in office. Before formally closing this annual report I feel called upon to express for such discussion and consideration as they may seem to warrant my first impressions of the difficulties and drawbacks under which the Department labors.

It must be evident that there is something radically wrong with the Department. The universal dissatisfaction is the conclusive proof of this. It is expressed to me by influential members of both political parties, and quite universally by the naval officers, coupled with the hope and expectation that some remedy may be found and speedily applied. Placed temporarily in charge of the interests of the Service, it forces itself daily upon me for consideration.

It is desirable to discriminate at the outset between the Naval Service and the Navy Department. Our Naval Service, numbering altogether, including line officers, engineers, chaplains, pay officers, naval constructors, etc., on the active list, 1,500, consists of a body of accomplished men representing a high standard of personal character, who are deservedly respected and honored throughout the world.

This, unfortunately, cannot be said with equal justice of the Navy Department, and whatever dissatisfaction the country has ever experienced with the naval arm of our Government will be found to have had its origin, not in the Naval Service, but in the Naval Administration, and even there dissatisfaction should be limited to certain branches only of the business of the Department.

Historically it is a fact that up to the time that the present Bureau system was created, in 1842, and for some time thereafter, the American Navy, though inferior in numbers to the navies of some other countries, was as formidable as any for its tonnage, and seems to have contributed to, and appropriated improvements in, the art of naval warfare as largely and as rapidly as any other naval power.

During the thirty years between the close of the War of 1812 and the commencement of the Mexican War, our naval force increased fifty-fold and the navies of no other power were superior to it except in the number of their vessels. As respects the navies of this hemisphere, it was supreme, the united marines of all the rest of this continent being unable to contend against it for an hour.

Prior to 1842 the business of the Department had been managed by a Board of Naval Commissioners, and the result of my reading leads me to the conclusion that while the affairs of the Department were intelligently administered so far as the general scope of the conduct of its affairs was concerned, yet the system failed in executive force.

The natural division of the work of the Department is into three branches:

First, The Department having to do with the personnel and the fleet. This covers the enrolment, service, detail, uniform, organization, and discipline of the personnel; of the movements and command of fleets and vessels when commissioned; and this is properly the military branch of the Department.

Second, The Department of Material and Construction. This covers the construction, repair, and care of vessels before commissioned; their armament and equipment, including military stores (but not provisions and clothing), as well as the management and maintenance of dockyards, their buildings, machinery, and their civil establishment.

Third, The Department of Finance and Accounts, this covering contracts and purchases of all naval stores, flags, coal, stationery, and care of store-houses, etc.

This division of functions is not the one existing. It properly separates, however, the business of the Department for purposes of analysis and consideration. The functions of these last two departments are largely civil.

It is in these last two branches of the Service that the difficulties arise. The first or military branch may be placed out of consideration, for the duties of that have been satisfactorily performed. With reference to the last two branches note that it is the consideration of any ordinary business, and the first requisite to successful transaction of any business is a proper system by which responsibility is lodged in its appropriate place. This division, according to the functions, is one that is, in general, common to the systems of England, France, and Germany. There will be found variations peculiar to each, but there is a substantial agreement in the distribution of functions such as I have indicated.

In the first place, there is the financial department. The last of those above named where the ordinary purchasing, the payment of bills, the auditing, the general system of accounting, etc., are brought under one head. It is sometimes placed in civil hands and the Naval Service relieved from any responsibility with reference to it. If a certain class of goods, or a certain article, is required by a branch of the Service a requisition is made upon the financial department; there the accounts are kept, the distribution and disposition of the property accounted for; purchases are made largely by contract, and for this class of business a person is selected having business capacity. The inspection of goods and material is by the department for which they are intended. This seems to be a proper distribution or location of these functions.

Here this business is scattered through all the Bureaus.

I have very scant means of investigating, but have conducted a few inquiries into the workings of the system in vogue with us for the purpose of informing myself as to its merits, with results such as one might anticipate. Without an efficient head to establish a system and attend to its proper enforcement in the matter of purchases, one would expect to find that order of things which has heretofore brought grave scandals upon the Department, namely, large private purchases where contracts were intended by law, and the business falling into the hands of naval contract brokers to the exclusion of regular dealers in the articles. These abuses (quite inevitable in the absence of a proper system) were investigated and exposed by Congressional committee years ago; but by recent investigations I find the same order of things largely existing down to a recent date, and the same men named in the Congressional report holding substantially the same relation to the Department as before, and with the same scandalous results.

The open purchases of the Navy Department for the year ending June 30, 1885, amounted to \$241,285.84 while the purchases by contract amounted to only a little over a million. A large proportion of the open purchases consisted of articles of either comparatively small value, or more or less difficult of classification; but \$138,000 of the amount was spent by the seven Bureaus, each acting independently of the other for coal bought, not in one lot, but at 166 several open purchases (this does not include coal bought by ships on foreign stations); 299 different open purchases of stationery were made by eight different Bureaus; \$121,315.68 was spent for lumber and hardware by six Bureaus in 499 separate open purchases. Seven Bureaus spent \$46,000 for oils and paints in 269 separate purchases; 117 different open purchases of iron and steel were made at an expense of \$41,524.48; \$68,881.59 was spent for hemp and cordage in 45 different open purchases. Eight Bureaus supply stationery to ships; three Bureaus supply ships with lamps and lanterns. To the same ship one Bureau supplies electric lights and the light for general illuminating purposes; another supplies electric search lights, and a third oil and light for the engine and fire rooms.

These facts are taken from the records of the year ending June 30, 1885, and its showing is more favorable than that for the previous year. I do not question the good faith of the Bureau officers through whom these purchases were made, nor that the purchases were for the most part honestly made. The abuses inevitable under a system of such divided responsibility for the discharge of duties which are only incidental to the general business of the Bureau does not necessarily imply fraud or even indifference to the interests of the Service.

But under a system in which these purchases are a mere incident to their general business, it is inevitable that they should be neglected, and the suggestion I make is that they are not properly classified and placed under the proper management and control; for, if the list of persons is examined from whom these purchases are made, there is an astonishing repetition of the names of naval contract brokers, not engaged in a regular business, and whose dealings with the Department caused grave scandals many years since. These purchases have to be made in this form under a certificate made by the Bureau officers, that there is a necessity for the immediate purchase of the articles, which, when used to such an extent as is exhibited under these investigations with reference to standard articles like coal, stationery, lumber, oil, and paints, and articles of that character, simply indicate that the most convenient and not the most economical method of making purchases is resorted to. In some cases private (in distinction from public and open) competition is resorted to, and in some cases short advertising.

Illustrations of a rather extraordinary character of the resort to this certificate of necessity for immediate purchases as a convenience appear among these records. In the summer of 1883 an order was given for \$61,000 worth of canvas to a person who was not a dealer in the article and at a time when there was the usual supply of canvas on hand. Several months were consumed in the delivery of this \$61,000 worth of canvas and the bills were made out in sums of less than \$500 each. The "certificate of necessity" was endorsed upon each one, and in that form the bills passed the Treasury Department. Two or three of these bills, with the Bureau officer's certificate of necessity upon them, would sometimes be dated and presented on the same day. During the same year coal was purchased by different paymasters from the same person on or about the same days, deliverable at the very same place, of like quality and character, but at prices differing from 50 to 65 cents a ton. It is idle to suppose that abuses of the character I have glanced at can be prevented merely by a change in the personnel of the Department. It is the system that is vicious.

The business of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting at the time the abuses here referred to occurred was under the charge of a distinguished naval officer of unquestioned integrity and conspicuous executive capacity. It is due to each of the chiefs at present discharging the duties of the various Bureaus that I should express my conviction that they have all labored conscientiously to do what in them lay to protect the Service from the unsatisfactory results of a system which they can neither reform nor control.

Each Bureau in the matter of purchases being practically independent of every other, and charged with duties to which these are generally subordinate; with no immediate responsibility to any common head, it is not only not surprising, but it is inevitable that their purchases should be made without the precautions and the judgment and the sagacity which might be expected if that class of duties were confided to an individual selected for the purpose, and upon whom its entire responsibility could be concentrated. With such a concentration of responsibility, the financial operations of the Department would all centre at a single point; a system of books would be kept that would show at a glance all the financial transactions of the Department, and at the same time would establish what is sadly lacking at present, an exhibit of all the property of the Department for which some one would always be accountable.

I have taken measures to obtain a complete inventory of the stock on hand in our various Navy-yards and stations. It is the first that has been made in seven years. In view of the defective system under which the Navy Department has been allowed to drift during the last twenty years, I was not greatly surprised to discover that the stock on hand fails to agree with the amounts shown by the books of the Department. In some cases it is largely in excess, in others there is a deficiency.

The discrepancy can only be explained by the absence of a proper system of accountability. Taking for an illustration the article of canvas, of which the Navy is a large consumer. When it is taken from the storehouse upon requisition the amount is checked off on the books. Here accountability practically ceases. What of it, if any, is not used, remains in the sail-loft. What finally becomes of it sooner or later, it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain. Charges of its being pilfered and redelivered to the Department by contractors, in collusion with the clerks have been made from time to time. The remnants, if returned, have not always been entered on the books. This necessarily left in store a surplus beyond what the books called for, constituting a temptation which it is not wise for any Government to offer. Were this business placed under a single and competent head, with entire responsibility, discrepancies like these, which, if known, would be fatal to the credit of any commercial house, could only occur in rare cases, nor then without blasting the character of the responsible officer.

It is probable that a person equipped with the business training and experience requisite for the effective discharge of such a trust might more readily be selected from civil life than from the Naval Service. Such has been the experience and the practice of the great naval powers of the world. In England the class of duties to which I have referred is devolved upon the financial secretary, who is selected by the first lord of the admiralty, and who is required to be a civilian and a member of Parliament. He sits with the Admiralty Board, and is expected to present and defend the estimates of the Admiralty in the House of Commons, and upon him the Government depends mainly for the direction and control of this branch of the department's business.

From the consideration of this branch of the Service two or three things would seem to appear. In the first place, that the present system has worked badly, even down to the present time; in the second place that any proper system would throw this work together under one head; and, in the third place, that that is in general the system adopted by other countries.

MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION.

Returning now to what I have called the second branch of the functions of the Department, that of material and construction, we encounter difficulties of a yet more serious character. It is here that the Department has most lamentably failed. The rapid advance of the art of naval warfare and the singular fertility of human genius in devising new and ever more formidable implements of destruction are rendering the problems of this branch of the public service daily more complicated and difficult. At the present moment it must be conceded that we have nothing which deserves to be called a Navy.

The country has expended since July 1, 1868—more than three years subsequent to the close of the late Civil War—over seventy-five millions of money on the construction, repair, equipment, and ordnance of vessels, which sum, with a very slight exception, has been substantially thrown away; the exception being a few ships now in process of construction. I do not overlook the sloops constructed in 1874 and costing three or four millions of dollars, and to avoid discussion they may be excepted also. The fact still remains that for about seventy of the seventy-five millions of dollars which have been expended by the Department for the creation of a navy we have practically nothing to show.

It is questionable whether we have a single naval vessel finished and afloat at the present time that could be trusted to encounter the ships of any important power—a single vessel that has either the necessary armor for protection, speed for escape, or weapons for defence. This country can afford to have, and it cannot afford to lack, a naval force at least so formidable that its dealings with foreign powers will not be influenced at any time, nor even be suspected of being influenced, by a consciousness of weakness on the sea. While still striving to build up its merchant marine and to multiply its relations with foreign markets, it cannot be expected much longer to tolerate such expenditures for a navy which could not for a moment defend even its diminutive commerce against any considerable power.

A naval vessel at the present moment is a product of science. Taking the world over, it will be found that each part of her—her armor, her armament, her power, her form, and the distribution of her parts or characteristics—each of these features of

the completed vessel is absorbing from year to year the exclusive study of a class of scientific men. And as men of science throughout the world are continually stimulated to new discoveries and inventions, no vessel that can be built can be considered a finality in any particular.

The problem of keeping pace with the march of improvement in these lines of industry is one of incalculable difficulty; and yet unless the Government is prepared to avail itself promptly of all the improvements that are made in the construction and equipment of its ships its expenditures are largely useless.

It is of little service to a nation to have any navy at all unless it is a fair expression of the highest scientific resources of its day. The destructive power of the modern implements has become so great as to dominate in actual warfare. The bravest and best commander is helpless without them. For the construction and maintenance of such a navy we have made but little provision. To have and maintain such a navy is, I believe, the wish of the country and the duty of the Government.

In order to encounter and deal with this problem other countries have made certain important changes in their policy of late years, to which it may be proper to call attention for whatever consideration seems proper.

First, in the matter of the education of their men they have differentiated them and spent money to create in each branch men with the necessary scientific training. In England and France the education of the naval constructor and the designing engineer is, from beginning to end, entirely different from that of a line officer, and highly scientific. . . .

In broad contrast with the policy of both the great naval powers here indicated, the only step we have taken for many years to meet the constantly changing exigencies of the Service has been to discontinue the special education of engineers. The separate engineer class at the Naval Academy was abolished in 1882, and the man who now graduates from the Naval Academy into the Engineer Corps will have had no experience in the dockyard, no familiarity with construction, except such elementary knowledge as he may have acquired in common with a line officer at the Academy. Even his sea service has been in a sailing vessel, where he has been taught the seamanship of a past generation, and he may have never seen a modern engine in his life. Upon graduation, instead of being sent where practical experience in his branch of work can be acquired—to a marine engine establishment or a shipyard—he is sent to sea, and it is from this class that designers, who are expected not only to utilize all the latest improvements of other naval powers, but to add to and perfect them, are supposed to be selected. One exception should be noted to this: By the courtesy of the Governments of England and France we are permitted to maintain two students at the Royal Naval College at Greenwich, and two at the French Naval College at Cherbourg. This privilege will doubtless prove an important advantage to us in process of time, though somewhat slowly; and our students are still without the dockyard experience which theirs enjoy.

In other words, we have travelled in one direction in this regard and other people in another. They imagine that to keep up with one branch of scientific human industry at the present time is sufficient for one man, and that it is necessary to educate to it and to furnish adequate rewards within the line in which talent and science are desired.

The result of this is seen in the fact that while they have been steadily advancing in the arts of naval construction and equipment until there is scarcely a feature of the vessels they are now constructing or a weapon which figures at all conspicuously among the destructive powers of their armament which is not comparatively a novelty, we stand but little in advance of our position as it was twenty years ago.

USE OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

We are also called upon to take note of the fact that all the great naval powers appear to have found it to be to their advantage to avail themselves largely of private enterprise in the creation of implements of war. No designing engineer of the English Admiralty has designed an engine for many years. In their stead the private marine engine builders of the nation, who can produce evidence of adequate responsibility, are invited to compete with each other to produce, for example, an engine that shall be able to accomplish certain defined results, such as a certain amount of power with the greatest economy of weight and space consistent with strength and durability.

The Admiralty designer acts as a critic of the plans, and as general adviser. He is relieved, in a great degree, from executive labor, that he may have time for study and for keeping up with the progress of his art. Having prescribed the general conditions of the proposed engine, his subordinates supervise the construction. To stimulate and encourage the competitors to spare no effort or expense in executing any order that may be awarded them it is usual to offer a liberal premium for every increase of the required power of the machine, and to attach a pecuniary penalty proportioned to the amount it falls short of such required power.

By this process the Admiralty secures for the Government the best results of all the ingenuity and capital that is engaged in this branch of industry throughout the empire, in addition to whatever aid its own trained agents can contribute. In this way, too, every improvement in marine engineering, wherever and by whomsoever made, is pretty certain to be first offered to the Government. For successful competition under such conditions it becomes absolutely indispensable for competing establishments to avail themselves of all the tributary resources of science, while the Government, by turning over such work to private enterprise, secures a maximum of economy and executive force.

It is the tendency of all Governmental service to fall into ruts and grooves, for which in the preparation of implements of war there is perhaps no antidote so effective as an appeal, where practicable, to private enterprise.

It is difficult to name a single component part of a first class vessel of war to which private enterprise has not made quite the most important contributions.

By the system I have described the designer is not only relieved from all the financial business with

which he is burdened with us, but, what is of incalculable importance, he is assisted in his work by all the great marine-engine designers of the country. They become as effectually his aides and subordinates as if they held their commissions from their Government.

With us, on the contrary, the head of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, upon whom we depend for designs, is selected from a corps which is at present given by the Government only an elementary training in the science of engineering. He is at once loaded down with the distracting executive work of construction. Having the charge of a multitude of shops in the various navy-yards, he must look after a great variety of contracts, purchases, and so on. In addition to all this, for which of itself few men are equal, he is expected to design the most complicated machinery and give his country the benefit of the daily improvements in his art. It is needless to say that to such a task no man is equal.

The policy of enlisting private enterprise in the work tends to the creation and development of important branches of industry within the country. The resources of our country, its ingenuity and enterprise in any line of human endeavor, when called out, are unexcelled by any nation or people on earth.

If the \$75,000,000 spent since 1868 by our Government had been used to stimulate competition among our people in the production of modern ships of war, it is quite fair to assume that the activities and agencies at the disposal of the Government would have been by this time entirely adequate to its needs. It has been wasted by Government agencies upon worthless things. The invention of the country has been discouraged. The Hotchkiss gun now commanding the widest attention, the manufacture of which is becoming an important industry in France, was the product of American invention, which, when ignored and rejected by Government agencies here, found elsewhere its field of development. Ericsson, whose name will always be one of the great ones of our time in history, works now at the age of 83 without encouragement or notice at the great problems of naval warfare, and is receiving more attention and greater encouragement from other Governments than from our own. Examples might easily be multiplied.

Suffice it to say our Government has placed itself in no relation to the inventive genius of the country, and is without the rich fruits which such a course would bring to it.

Another distinction to which attention may properly be called between our system and that in general use elsewhere is as to the manner in which the general policy of the Department is shaped and directed. At the top of the system there should be wise general direction. After you have freed your technical, scientific men from unnecessary burdens, put the finances where they will be well handled in a business way, freed your designers largely from the executive work, so that they are enabled to put the Department in the way of producing advanced products (appropriating, adapting, and inventing new and improved methods in their various lines), it is of the first importance that the system should centre in a wise and judicious and capable directing power, for there is necessarily the daily decision to be made of what shall be done in any particular line.

With reference to a naval vessel, the first step is the consideration of the direction in which the nation shall move amid the conflicting opinions of disputants. All the difficult problems in the construction of a vessel of war present themselves and must be settled before the construction is commenced. Her size, her speed, her armament, her protection; the proportion of displacement which shall be given to each, and her probable cost, are all of them problems of incalculable difficulty, and about which the most competent authorities are usually most difficult in expressing opinions.

For the determination of these questions boards consisting partly of naval officers and partly of civilians are usually constituted. The naval powers of the Old World provide a permanent council or board, whose duty it is to consult with and advise the minister of marine. They are largely freed of executive duties and functions, so that they may have time for investigation and study, and to be thus enabled to take a large view generally of the questions which are involved in directing the course and general policy of the Department.

It occurs to me that the superiority of our system as it existed up to 1842 was in this regard; for it seems that what was done was wisely done. The ships that were built were up to the state of the art at the time. There was the necessary intelligence directing the movements of the Department; but they failed in executive business capacity, and the Bureau system was devised to remedy this. It was supposed at the time, as the record shows, that the Bureau chiefs would be able to sit in consultation with the Secretary, and that the Department would not lack intelligent guidance. But the inevitable result of throwing large executive duties upon any man is to disqualify him for council. At the present time this function is not performed at all. The Secretary may at once be eliminated from the problem. A civilian ordinarily, not skilled in the art of war, nor having the technical knowledge with reference to its implements, having no personal staff, his separate office force consisting, as estimated for and appropriated by Congress, of but one stenographer, one clerk, and three messengers—all the other force having general clerical work. Thus it happens, as it has happened for the last twenty years, that the Department drifts along doing without consideration whatever is done and with no intelligent guidance in any direction.

If illustration should be thought desirable of the fact that the Department lacks wise directing power, the unwisdom of its expenditures, the fact that it has steadily gone behind in the race, while its Bureau officers are known to be able and experienced men, may properly be cited.

My experience of the manner in which important decisions are necessarily made by the Secretary, without opportunity for proper deliberation and intelligent advice, leads me to say without hesitation that the follies of the Department are largely attributable to this. Take the *Omaha* for an example. She has been rebuilt within the last four years at an expense of \$572,000. It was an act of the greatest folly.

Now, if one should seek to ascertain who is responsible for the decision that the *Omaha* should be rebuilt, it would be

found that no one so decided, after discussion and an intelligent knowledge of facts. The Chief Constructor will deny responsibility except for the survey; the Engineer-in-Chief the same; and the Secretary of the Navy, if he should be able to recall the circumstances, would doubtless remember that he was advised that she needed general repairs and rebuilding, and gave the orders in ignorance of the probable result of his decision.

It may be said that the Secretary should call the Chief Constructor and Designing Engineer and the other Bureau chiefs and ask them to sit down and discuss with him the problems of the Department. They would be very competent to assist him in that capacity, but, in the first place, they are too fully occupied with executive work to leave them any time for such investigations as could be of any service to the Secretary, and, in the second place, the responsibility is not placed upon them. The most that can be said is that the Secretary might enforce the necessary aid in an individual case, but it would not be possible to extend it much further.

I find myself forced, therefore, to the conviction that everything connected with the construction and equipment of our Navy is done with too little deliberation, and that under the present organization of the Department this cannot be otherwise. I have occasion to know that the amounts found to have been expended upon the *Omaha* and upon the *Mohican* surprised no person more than the general consent which had been given to the work. Seeing the ill-advised and inconsiderate manner in which important steps are necessarily taken by me under the present system, I feel certain that a similar record of mismanagement, of wasteful expenditure, of injudicious and ill-advised disposition of public moneys might be made by any Secretary under the present system. Nor can I undertake, without the aid of any substantial success, to prevent entirely the mismanagement which has so long been the reproach of this Department. As in the English Service, and notably in the French and German, the Secretary should be provided with a board or boards for consultation, consisting of naval officers and experts, most of them comparatively free from executive duties, whose duty it should be to assist him in solving the technical problems of the Department.

The creation of the Naval Advisory Board was an attempt to supply this want to the Secretary in the matter of the consideration of the four ships authorized in 1883. It was, I have no doubt, a benefit in many respects and a substantial aid to the Secretary. I think it unfortunate that the intention of the law, as it is now understood by both the Advisory Board and the Bureau officers, is that the Secretary, with me, was not carried out. If they had remained with an advisory function merely, preparing plans, consulting over and advising the Secretary with regard to what the ships should be, examining and inspecting the work as critics and independent advisers, leaving the responsibility for the work with the Bureau, instead of taking into their own hands the executive function, and practically superseding and doing the work, it would, I think, have worked in a more satisfactory manner to the Department and the Service.

My brief experience in this Department has satisfied me that whatever changes in its organization may be desired, it is of first necessity to separate, as much as practicable, the work of direction and deliberation from the details of execution; in other words, that there should be in the construction of a navy, as in every other kind of business, a proper distribution of labor.

It is proper to say that many improvements in the present organization may be made by the Secretary without additional legislation; and to the extent to which, after full consideration and discussion, changes will seem to be judicious, they will be undertaken. In the matter of obtaining designs for ships and determining the form in which proposals shall be made to private ship and engine builders, he is allowed a reasonable latitude. Indeed, prior to the war, the engines of a large proportion of the naval vessels were designed in various establishments, in answer to proposals calling for general requisites of machinery. I have deemed it wise to avail myself of these discretionary powers and accumulate for the instruction and practical experience of the designers the plans of the ships about to be advertised the latest designs, so far as possible, of eminent naval constructors of other countries; but no power is lodged with the Secretary to make any effectual changes in the organization of the Department itself, or to do more than redistribute somewhat the functions among existing Bureau chiefs.

The system of organization indicated herein begins with the Secretary (who occupies a position at the confluence of all the powers confided to the Department) and supports him with some aids or advisers in such number and of such character as shall seem judicious; (an Assistant Secretary of the Navy would seem to be an essential feature.) Then places one person at the head of each of the three natural divisions of the functions of the Department, which may be stated to be finance, construction, and personnel; then subdivides then business of each division according to the subject-matter with which each deals. Thus the division of material and construction would necessarily have a sub-division or bureau for engineering, one for construction, one for equipment, and one for ordnance.

At present the heads of these bureaus, instead of co-operating, work independently of each other and not always in harmony in producing their respective parts of a completed ship. After the *Omaha* had been commissioned and was ready for sea, it appeared that the several bureaus working independently upon her, had between them so completely appropriated her space that they had left her coal room for not more than four days' steaming at her full capacity. Each bureau, too, finds it necessary to maintain its separate shops in the several Navy-yards, each with a separate organization of foremen, quartermen, leading men, etc., so that shops doing precisely the same class of work—carpenter shops and machine shops, for instance, are commonly duplicated and sometimes triplicated in the same Navy-yard with corresponding multiplicity of foremen and organization expense—a state of things which under the present organization of the Department, it is almost impossible to correct.

If such an organization should commend itself to the law making power and be once tried, I feel confident it would be of great benefit to the country. It calls for no additional expenditure. Our present departmental force is more than adequate to our needs if reorganized and systematized. Our policy as a nation is such as not to require a great naval force, but we need wisdom in expenditures and a force adequate for the enforcement of our views of right and justice.

To secure these results a reform in our organization is indispensable. Very respectfully,

WM. C. WHITNEY, Secretary of the Navy.

MILITARY JUSTICE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

RECENT examples show our military courts to be liable to inconsistency and injustice, as they have ever been, and a radical change must be made in the composition of these courts before improvement can be hoped. In this dawning of reform in the service of our Government it is natural that interest has been directed to this branch of our war administration.

The inefficiency of Courts-martial can be clearly traced to the want of some knowledge of the principles of law in the members of the courts.

In the Confederate Army many lawyers were enrolled among the officers. They were men of high character and capacity, who soon became versed in the simple principles of military discipline and furnished the personnel requisite for the effective administration of military justice.

Every corps and every military department had a court composed of these officers.

In the spring of 1863 I was ordered to the command of the Department of the Gulf, and at Mobile, the

headquarters, found one of these courts. It was, as all them were, composed of three judges of the rank of colonel, and a judge advocate of the rank of captain.

They were: Col. Thos. Judge, afterwards Chief Justice of Alabama; Col. Douglass, Judge of the Supreme Court of Florida, and Gen. Andrew Herron, Attorney-General of Louisiana. Capt. Elmore Fitzpatrick, an able lawyer of Montgomery, Ala., was judge-advocate. The names of these men wherever they are known give assurance of the fidelity and effectiveness with which they discharged their important trust.

During three years that court dispensed military justice guided by the principles of law, and so tempered by mercy that of many hundreds of capital cases disposed of by them only one man was executed.

On May 7, 1865, the records of that court were turned over to the Confederate quartermaster at Cuba Station near Meridian, Miss., with the intention to burn them. It is probable that he did not do so. It is hoped that they may have been preserved to furnish precedent for the rulings of military law.

Our volunteer and militia service have in them abundant personnel of the same high grade and may learn of the Confederacy to use it well. So long as the "exigency of the Service," decides the composition of its important tribunals, no legal principles can be traced in their findings. In the convention of the National Guard Association of the United States, to assemble in Washington, Dec. 15, this subject of military Courts may well receive consideration.

DARNEY H. MAURY.

THE RETIRED LIST.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

In the communication published in your issue of October 10, headed "The Next Class," the following assertion appears: "The retirement laws as now written on the statute books are simply ridiculous." Exception is taken to the statement by many officers with whom the writer has conversed on the subject since that communication was published in the JOURNAL, the prevailing opinion being that, taking the present retirement laws as a whole, they are pretty good and a vast improvement on former days when the Army had no such laws. You hit the nail square on the head in your editorial in the JOURNAL of October 17 when you say that you are "not disposed to urge the passage of any measure which is likely to encounter any active opposition within the Service itself." There is not a shadow of a doubt but that any attempt to tinker with the retired list would be opposed by not only a large number in Congress but also by a large number of gentlemen within the Service itself. Your assertion that "There is already too much of the spirit of every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost" is lamentably true, and we sadly lack that unanimity that should pervade the Service, the evidence of which is to be found in the endless variety of measures advocated by Army officers during the past two sessions of Congress, all for the good (?) of the Service. If the reports published in the various newspapers were true, at that time, the members of Congress were absolutely bewildered and could not decide what it was that the Army *did* want. It ought to be sufficient for the Army at large to leave the whole subject in the hands of the Hon. Secretary of War, the General-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General, the Quartermaster-General, and the Inspector-General. If, as you state, the Secretary of War and the General of the Army have endorsed the bill known as the "Manderson" bill, the efforts of all the officers of the Army should be concentrated in bringing whatever influence they could command to bear upon Congress to have that bill become law at the present session. The fact is that the craze for promotion that struck the Army in 1870, and more or less each year since then, was engendered by the "leaven of fresh, young, vigorous blood" your correspondent of October 10 alludes to, and each year the schemes for getting rid of the "old fellows" so that the "fresh, vigorous, blooded young" fellows can push onwards and upwards are increasing. There is apparently but one thing that might satisfy the ambition of the fresh, young, vigorous-blooded, viz., abolish all the grades below that of colonel and start all the youngsters in with the rank of colonel. But let the retired list alone; a few short years more will not be long rolling round when, in the ordinary course of nature, the vacancies on the list will be fully equal to all the demands likely to be made upon it, and the men who fought out the last war will be making way for those who are now in training for the next war.

X. Y. Z.

THE DE BANGE GUN.

THE gun of Col. de Bange does not appear to be the decided success which the French press has represented it to be, accidents having been caused chiefly by the blowing off of the breech piece. In the camp of Chalons, a gun on the De Bange system burst on Aug. 30. On Sept. 2, a breech piece was blown off at Auvours, and on Sept. 14 a similar accident happened at Arras. Within two weeks, consequently, three fatal accidents happened, by which an officer and two gunners were killed and four wounded. The French papers acknowledge that similar mishaps occurred previously. In June last a 9-centimetre Bange gun burst during the gunnery practice of the Castres artillery brigade, when two men were severely and one slightly wounded. Similar accidents were chronicled in the course of last year. On June 4, 1884, the breech piece of a 24-centimetre gun was blown off in the batteries of Havre, killing one and wounding three gunners. That accident was reported by French papers as having been the fifth in the course of a few weeks. The German papers are somewhat jubilant over the ill success of the De Bange system, on account of the defeat which Krupp suffered when competing for the supply of the new guns for the Serbian artillery. The success of Col. de Bange in securing the contract seems rather strange, however, for at the competitive trial at Belgrade between De Bange, Whitney, and Krupp guns, the latter turned out the best; yet the contract went to the French makers, owing, it is said, to powerful influence in Serbia.—*Army and Navy Gazette.*

PERSONAL ITEMS.

COLONEL M. L. COURTNEY, U. S. A., and Mrs. Courtney, are at the National Hotel, Washington, D. C.

LIEUTENANT LEROY E. SEBREE, Signal Corps, U. S. A., was recently in San Antonio, Texas.

MAJOR J. M. BACON, 7th Cavalry, left Fort Totten, Dakota, this week, on a month's leave.

LIEUTENANT S. H. GIBSON, U. S. Marine Corps, has reported for duty at the Marine Barracks, at Norfolk, Va.

LIEUTENANT W. J. NICHOLSON, 7th Cavalry, on duty at Manhattan College, Kansas, spent Thanksgiving with friends at Leavenworth City.

GENERAL JAMES OAKES, and Colonel Theodore Yates, U. S. A., retired, are recent visitors to Philadelphia.

GENERAL CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER, U. S. A., on his way to San Francisco, visited friends in St. Paul last week.

MEDICAL INSPECTOR G. S. BEARDSLEY, U. S. N., returned to Norfolk, Va., this week, from a Thanksgiving visit to Washington.

REAR ADMIRAL CHAS. H. BALDWIN, U. S. N., and Mrs. Baldwin, sailed for France on Saturday last on the *Normandie*.

NAVAL CONSTRUCTOR GEO. R. BOUSH, U. S. N., who has been sick for some time past at Norfolk, Va., has returned to duty at the New York Navy-yard.

CHIEF ENGINEER THEODORE ZELLER, U. S. N., was duly retired for age, on Monday, December 1, amid the wishes of his many friends that he may long live to enjoy the peace and quiet of retirement.

COLONEL CHAS. PAGE, U. S. A., Medical Director, has had for his guest, recently, at Fort Leavenworth, the Right Rev. Bishop Vail of Kansas.

CHAPLAIN FRANK THOMPSON, U. S. N., attended the Episcopal Convention at Holly Springs, Miss., last week, presided over by his father, Assistant Bishop Hugh Miller Thompson.

CAPTAIN F. D. GARRETTY, 17th U. S. Inf., and Miss Garretty, of Fort Custer, lately visiting in New York City, were in St. Paul last week visiting friends.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made of the engagement of Miss Anderson, daughter of the late General Robert Anderson, U. S. A., to Mr. James Lawton of New York.

COLONEL F. B. HAMILTON, 2d U. S. Art., who was called to Monroeville a few weeks ago by the serious illness of his father, who has since died, is expected to rejoin at Little Rock Barracks early next week.

CAPTAIN B. M. CUSTER, 24th U. S. Inf., and family, have arrived in the East and will spend the holidays with friends at Danville, N. Y.

ASSISTANT SURGEON H. P. BIRMINGHAM, U. S. A., arrived in New York last week from the West and reported to Major General Hancock for assignment to duty.

LIEUTENANT BAINBRIDGE REYNOLDS, 3d U. S. Cav., visiting East for some time past will continue his visit until after New Year's.

ASSISTANT SURGEON A. R. CHAPIN, U. S. A., has joined at Fort Robinson, Neb., to take Assistant Surgeon Walter Reed's place who comes East on a two months' leave.

POST CHAPLAIN G. W. SIMPSON, U. S. A., was expected back this week at Fort Bridger, Wyo., from a month's leave.

LIEUTENANT F. O. JOHNSON, 3d U. S. Cav., under his recent promotion has changed base from Fort Davis to Fort Stockton, Texas.

CAPTAIN C. L. COOPER, 10th U. S. Cav., has gone from Fort Grant to Fort Bowie, Arizona, where it is likely he will remain in camp on field service during the winter.

LIEUTENANT JOHN PITCHER, 1st U. S. Cavalry, a son of Gen. Thos. G. Pitcher, U. S. A., retired, has been selected by Major-Gen. Schofield for duty as A. D. C. on his staff. Lieut. Pitcher was graduated from West Point in 1872, has been adjutant of his regiment for the past three years, and is an officer of varied experience and attainments.

In a private letter an old soldier in the Home at Washington writes: "The Home government is under a better régime than ever before. That God's blessed heroic old General, Henry J. Hunt, U. S. A., with his gentlemanly deputy, goes about late and early looking after the comfort of those over whom it is his lot and their good fortune to rule in a most fatherly way."

ONE of the lions of the Tozuz Asylum for Soldiers, says the *Lewiston Journal*, "is Col. Horatio B. Reed, who fought through the war of the rebellion and afterwards joined the army of Ismail Pasha, Khedive of Egypt, and secured a position on his staff. He is only 45 years old, but was seriously wounded at Antietam and is broken down in health." Col. Reed was formerly regimental adjutant 5th U. S. Artillery and resigned May 8, 1870.

ADMIRAL MASON S. COOPER, Haytian Navy, son of Rear Admiral G. H. Cooper, was married Nov. 25 to Miss Alice Morris Salmon, daughter of Hamilton H. Salmon, of Brooklyn. Among those present were Lieutenant and Mrs. Cowles, General Edward L. Molineux, Colonel and Mrs. Charles Bridge, Mrs. G. H. Cooper, Mrs. Charles Cooper, Rear-Admiral Upshur, Paymaster Thompson, Rear-Admiral Joutet, Lieutenant and Mrs. Miller, Lieutenant Hunter, Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Clitz, Colonel and Mrs. Heywood, and Dr. and Mrs. Bloodgood.

THE *Vancouver Independent* of November 19 says: Gen. Gibbon and Lieut. McClelland returned from Puget Sound yesterday. Captain Geo. W. Davis, 14th Inf., late on Gen. Sheridan's staff, joined at Vancouver Barracks Nov. 12. Colonel De Russy, commanding the battalion of the 14th Infantry, at Seattle, with the troops, returned to Vancouver Tuesday. Gen. L. C. Hunt, Colonel 14th Infantry, departed Sunday, accompanied by his daughter, for San Diego. Major J. C. McKee returned Nov. 15, relinquishing unexpired portion of his leave.

COMMANDER C. S. COTTON, U. S. N., was a recent guest at the Everett House, New York.

GENERAL H. F. CLARKE, U. S. A., and Mrs. Clarke, were in New York City this week visiting friends.

LIEUTENANT J. S. OYSTER, 1st U. S. Artillery, rejoined at Fort Monroe, Va., this week from a Thanksgiving leave.

COLONEL M. H. STACEY, U. S. A., rejoined at Fort Ontario, N. Y., early in the week from leave and resumed command of that post.

LIEUTENANT H. T. ALLEN, 2d U. S. Cav., called at Fort Leavenworth last week on his way to Washington, and was the guest of General Miles during his stay.

COLONEL L. L. LANGDON, U. S. A., arrived this week with his command at Fort Bartanacas, Fla., and is now busily engaged getting garrison matters put to rights for the winter.

GENERAL ROBERT WILLIAMS, U. S. A., lately sick at Fort Missoula, Montana, has returned to Chicago and resumed duty at Division Headquarters in that city.

COLONEL H. M. LAZELLE and Capt. S. M. Mills, U. S. A., en route to India on special service, and Commander G. W. Hayward, U. S. N., were passengers on the *Etruria*, which sailed for Liverpool on Saturday last.

LIEUTENANT J. A. GOODIN, 7th U. S. Infantry, is reported to be seriously ill at his home in Elizabethtown, Ky.

LIEUTENANT E. ST. J. GREBLE, 2d U. S. Artillery, and Mrs. Greble are expected to return from their wedding tour through Europe in a few days.

LIEUTENANT G. F. E. HARRISON, 2d U. S. Artillery, lately visiting on the Pacific Coast, has rejoined at Mt. Vernon Barracks, Ala.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM MITCHELL, 3d U. S. Infantry, on leave from Fort Ellis, Montana, will spend the winter in New York City, with quarters at the Grand Hotel.

LIEUTENANTS ALLEN CAPRON, C. G. Treat, and I. N. Lewis, of the artillery arm, reported to Gen. H. L. Abbot, U. S. A., at Willet's Point on Tuesday of this week for a seven months' course of torpedo instruction.

CAPTAIN D. M. SCOTT, 1st Infantry, came to New York this week to be ready to conduct recruits to Wyoming Territory.

LIEUTENANT C. M. PERKINS, U. S. Marine Corps, and Mrs. Perkins are located for the winter at the corner of 15th and I streets, Washington, D. C.

LIEUTENANT J. A. BUCHANAN, 14th U. S. Infantry, and bride were in Baltimore early in the week on their way to Vancouver Barracks.

COLONEL W. B. ROYALL, 4th Cavalry, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Royall and servants, left Washington for Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Nov. 28. Society will miss them very much, as no greater favorite than Miss Royall has appeared in Washington life for many years.

A FORT McDERMIT, NEV., correspondent writes: Lieuts. J. J. Haden and W. L. Mercer, 8th U. S. Inf., and a party, have just returned from a four days' hunt in the Stein Mountains. They killed 31 deer, 3 antelopes, 5 coyotes, and a badger, besides a great many sage and willow grouse, ducks, and geese. Lieuts. Haden and Mercer killed three deer each, and Private Handy, Co. I, 8th Inf., one of the party, killed 15 deer and two antelopes.

LIEUTENANT C. A. L. TOTTEY, 4th U. S. Artillery, says the *New London Telegraph* of Nov. 28, entertained and instructed a select party at his old home, corner of Main and Masonic streets last night. He read an able and scholarly paper on the Lost Tribes of Israel, which gave evidence of profound research into the fascinating lore of the East, profane and sacred, and an originality of thought and expression in treating the subject which marked the deep thinker as well as the conscientious student.

A PITTSBURGH despatch of Nov. 28, says: "Mrs. Cornelia L. Foult to-day filed a petition for divorce from her husband, Col. Wm. L. Foult, U. S. A. She alleges that he has for two years, by cruel and barbarous treatment endangered her life and compelled her to withdraw from her home and family. Col. Foult is the founder of the well-known advertising agency of W. L. Foult and Sons, which he transferred to his sons several years ago, when he received an appointment as captain of Cavalry in the Regular Army. Some months ago he was placed on the retired list, since which time he has been residing in Pittsburg."

A STORY is told of Colonel S. C. Kellogg, 5th Cav., recently detailed on Gen. Sheridan's staff. He was on his way back to his station at Fort Supply when General Sheridan telegraphed him. The telegram missed him at St. Louis, and was three or four days in reaching him at Fort Supply. So taken by surprise was he that he concluded it was a put-up job by the boys at Supply. He accordingly made inquiries of the operator, and getting no real satisfaction, finally telegraphed to Washington to know whether it was true that General Sheridan telegraphed him. He was of course rejoiced at getting a reply back immediately that he was wanted.—*Kansas City Times*.

THE *San Francisco Report*, of Nov. 21, says:

The *Ranger* left for the southern coast yesterday. Capt. B. D. Boswell, U. S. A., and his wife are in the city. Lieut. G. F. Elliott, U. S. M. C., arrived yesterday. Paymaster M. C. McDonald, U. S. N., stopped at the Palace while in the city. Dr. John S. Sayre left for the Omaha on the China steamer which started Thursday. Major William S. Worth, 8th Infantry, arrived on Thursday with his wife. The wife and family of Commander Charles Clark, of the *Ranger*, left for San Diego yesterday. Dr. John L. Neilson and Ensign Albert A. Ackerman, U. S. N., registered at the Occidental this week. The Coast Survey steamer *Patterson* will go to Marc Island next week. The *Hassler* and *McArthur* are laid up in winter quarters in Oakland Creek. Gen. L. C. Hunt, U. S. A., and daughter are at the Occidental, as also Captain J. W. Dillenback, 1st Art. Among the recent pleasant entertainments was the luncheon given in the private dining room of the Occidental Hotel, by Miss Feibiger, daughter of Colonel George L. Feibiger, U. S. A., to a few young lady friends.

LIEUTENANT H. G. ELLSWORTH, U. S. Marine Corps, left New York early in the week for Norfolk, Va., to join the *Swatara*.

GENERAL MCCLELLAN is said to have expressed a wish that he might be buried at Antietam. "Then I can get up with my boys when the reveille sounds."

MAJOR WILLIAM F. RANDOLPH, U. S. A., left Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., early in the week on a short trip to Newport, R. I., to attend the wedding of Mr. A. T. French to Miss Pauline Le Roy.

COLONEL E. B. WILLISTON, U. S. A., reported to General Benét, Chief of Ordnance, this week, for special duty, and is temporarily detached from Washington Barracks.

GUNNER JONATHAN M. BALLARD, U. S. N., who was appointed May 23, 1865, was retired from active service Nov. 23. He will continue to reside in Augusta, Me.

LIEUTENANT G. N. CHASE, 4th U. S. Infantry, recently appointed A. D. C. on the staff of Gen. O. O. Howard, was graduated from West Point in 1877, and is deemed a rising young officer.

MAJOR G. M. RANDALL, 23d U. S. Infantry, and bride, now in the West on their wedding tour, will return to Fort Wayne, Mich., about Dec. 15; a hearty reception awaits them.

LIEUTENANT W. H. W. JAMES, 24th U. S. Infantry, was at Fort Smith, Ark., this week as witness in a murder case before the U. S. Court at that point. When through there he comes East on a few months' leave.

GENERAL F. E. CAMP, formerly of the 2d U. S. Infantry, since his resignation from the Army has resided at Middletown, Conn. He was Paymaster-General on the staff of Governor Bigelow.

SURGEON J. C. MCKEE, U. S. A., has returned to Vancouver Barracks and resumed duty, but will leave for Boston, Mass., to enter upon his duties as Attending Surgeon as soon as Surgeon Basil Norris arrives to relieve him.

COLONEL T. A. MCPARLIN, Surgeon, U. S. A., will remain in New York City until January and then probably go to Omaha for duty as Medical Director Department of the Platte, to relieve Surgeon Summers, who soon retires.

MAJOR-GENERAL W. S. HANCOCK, U. S. A., and staff, attended the parade of the troops at Fort Columbus on Tuesday during the reading of Secretary of War Endicott's order of November 23, publishing the President's proclamation announcing the death of Vice President Hendricks.

MISS DERBY, daughter of the late Captain Derby, U. S. A. ("John Phoenix"), is visiting Mrs. Frank Courtis and Mrs. G. K. Moore, at the Ocean House, Norfolk, Va. Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Courtis are daughters of the late General Jas. H. Carleton, U. S. Army, a distinguished officer of the Mexican War, who died in 1873.

SURGEON CALVIN DEWITT, U. S. A., Newport Bks., Ky., delivered an interesting lecture, a few evenings ago, before the Lane Seminary students. The subject, treated was "The minister's care of his health," and took up the different organs of the body, giving plain, practical, and valuable hints in regard to their care and use. The lecture was highly appreciated, and at its conclusion the hope was expressed that Surgeon DeWitt would consent to give a similar talk at some time in the future.

A WASHINGTON special to the *New York World* contains the account of one who recently encountered Capt. Howgate on the Great Kanawha and Ohio River packet *Boone*. Capt. Howgate spoke with some freedom of personal matters. His escape and wanderings had been carefully chronicled in a diary. The story is romantic and includes thousands of miles of travel by land and water. Howgate said he was tired of wandering and wanted his case settled some way and soon. There is little doubt that if he were assured of leniency and a speedy trial he would be willing to surrender and take the chances of light punishment.

THE *Alta California*, referring to the marriage, Nov. 17, of Ensign D. P. Menefee, U. S. N., to Miss Lulu Lake, says: "The bride is the only daughter of Benjamin Lake, an old resident of San Francisco. The groom is the son of the late Dr. J. G. Menefee, of San Jose. The ceremony was performed by Dr. Neals, of St. Paul's Church, in the presence of about fifty friends of the contracting parties. The bride was attended by her parents. Ensign Niblack, U. S. Navy, a fellow officer of the groom, acted as best man. The bridal robe consisted of brown velvet and duchess satin combined. After the marriage service the young couple entertained twelve of their more intimate friends at a wedding breakfast at the Maison Dorée. Ensign and Mrs. Menefee will reside in San Francisco."

MR. BENNETT BURLEIGH was recently nominated for the House of Commons by the Liberals for Govan, a suburb of Glasgow but his nomination was objected to on the ground that he was not a British subject and that he was a fugitive from Canadian justice. Mr. Burleigh denied the allegations, and the objection was overruled. Mr. Burleigh, who is a native of Glasgow, served in the Confederate Army, was captured and imprisoned at Sandusky, Ohio. He escaped to Canada and returned to Scotland. He went back to America after studying for some time in college, and he has spent altogether twenty years of his life in America.

THE *Kansas City Times* says:

Miss Mamie Collins, after a pleasant visit to her brother, Lieutenant Collins, 24th Infantry, at Fort Elliott, has returned to Cincinnati. Mrs. Martin, wife of Col. James P. Martin, U. S. A., gave an elegant Loto party last evening to the young people of Fort Leavenworth, in honor of her guest and cousin, Miss Camilla Howard, of San Antonio, the acknowledged belle of that city. Miss Howard will remain at the post during the winter, and her presence will add greatly to the pleasure of society at the garrison. Mrs. E. Webster, who has been spending the past seven months with her son, Lieutenant George O. Webster, has left for Omaha to visit her friend, Mrs. Wesells, wife of Francis W. Wesells, son of General H. Wesells, U. S. A. Miss Lillian Lee, the charming daughter of Major J. G. C. Lee, chief quartermaster of the department of Texas, has again returned for a visit to the post, this time the guest of Lieutenant and Mrs. Bates, 13th Infantry.

COLONEL T. A. DODGE, U. S. A., was in New York this week, with quarters at the Hotel Brunswick.

LIEUTENANT J. M. ROBER, U. S. N., arrived in Washington this week for duty in the Bureau of Navigation.

MAJOR W. P. ATWELL, U. S. A., retired, of 4062 Westminister avenue, Philadelphia, visited Washington this week.

LIEUTENANT DAVID PEACOCK, U. S. N., who has been quite ill in the Naval Hospital at Norfolk, Va., is improving.

ADVICES from St. Augustine, Fla., received at the War Department early in the week, report the illness of Gen. Romeyn B. Ayres, U. S. A.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made of the engagement of Mr. George Mason to Miss Sallie Borie, niece of ex-Secretary Borie, of the Navy, and of Lieut. R. M. G. Brown, U. S. N., to the daughter of Senator Davis of W. Virginia.

CAPTAIN R. H. PRATT, 10th U. S. Cavalry, has reason to be proud of the success of the Indian Training School at Carlisle Barracks. It has increased from 84 pupils in 1879 to only six short of 500 at the present time.

CAPTAIN LEONARD HAY, 9th U. S. Infantry, on leave from Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., visited New York City this week and afterwards left for his post. He has spent most of his month's leave with his mother in Illinois.

THE Franklin Institute has recently elected six new honorary members, a distinction rarely bestowed. Among them are Louis Duncan, Ph. D., ensign U. S. N.; George L. Anderson, lieutenant 4th U. S. Artillery; J. B. Murdock, lieutenant U. S. N., and A. B. Wyckoff, lieutenant U. S. N.

A DESPATCH of Dec. 1 from Easton, Md., reported that Commodore Charles Lowndes, U. S. N., retired, was dying at his country seat in Talbot County from the effects of a paralytic stroke. He is in his 86th year, and entered the Navy March 23, 1815.

INFORMATION reaches us of the approaching marriage, early in the next year, of Capt. S. P. Jocelyn, 21st Infantry, to Miss May Chamberlain Edgell, only daughter of the late Mr. Stephen M. Edgell, of St. Louis.

AMONG the passengers by the *Adriatic* for Liverpool last week was Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, who has been visiting his only son, a farmer, living near Winnipeg. "I had another son," said he, "who was first lieutenant on board the *Dryad*, who manned the Gatling gun at the battle of El Teb. He was speared several times and finally shot by his guns."

COLONEL ROBERT TANSILL, of Virginia, says the *Chicago Journal*, "is spending the week with his son, R. W. Tansill, at 332 Dearborn avenue. Col. Tansill served twenty-one years in the U. S. Marine Corps, and is a veteran of the Seminole and Mexican Wars. Later he accompanied Commodore Perry on his expedition to China and Japan, and was the first officer to drill American soldiers on Chinese soil."

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SHERIDAN, Inspector-General Baird, and Col. Sheridan, A. D. C., arrived at Santa Fe Nov. 27, and accompanied by Col. L. P. Bradley, the district commander, went on the same day to Fort Bowie, Arizona, Gen. Crook's headquarters in the field, where they arrived safe and sound early in the week. The General and his party left Arizona for the East on Tuesday.

On Monday the United States, by District Attorney Worthington, entered a suit against J. Ledyard Hodge, formerly paymaster in the Army, to recover \$441,200.75, with interest at 6 per cent. from May 21, 1875. Major Hodge, it may be remembered, was tried at Fort McHenry in 1871 for embezzlement of public funds and sentenced to be cashiered and confined in the Albany Penitentiary for ten years. He was set at liberty in November, 1872, by order of President Grant.

LIEUTENANT S. E. ALLEN, 5th Art., is to be married Wednesday evening, Dec. 3, at the residence of Dr. C. H. Terry, 540 Washington avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., to Miss Conchita A. de la Mesa, the eldest daughter of Mrs. Terry. The ceremony will be conducted by Dr. H. Witt, of Conn. The wedding is to be a quiet one and only relatives and a few of the most intimate friends have been invited. Receptions to all friends will be given by Mrs. C. H. Terry and the bride, at the residence of the former on Wednesdays Jan. 8 and 13, 1886.

THE *Sidney Telegraph* says: "The many friends of Lieut. Cornman will regret to learn that he is quite ill with fever. During his illness Lieut. Duncan is acting as regimental adjutant. . . . Col. and Mrs. Stone, from Fort McKinney, will be the guests of Capt. and Mrs. Miles until quarters are made ready for their reception. . . . Private theatricals are on foot, and by Christmas one or more plays are to be presented. . . . Gen. Morrow has won the affection of the school children of Fort Sidney by inviting them to the post theatre, where they had singing and heard the 21st Infantry Band."

THE *Omaha Excelsior*, of Nov. 23, says.

Rehearsing is going on at Fort Omaha for more private theatricals to be presented next week. . . . Thursday, Col. and Mrs. Henry had at dinner, Lieut. and Mrs. Price, and Lieut. and Mrs. Hamilton. . . . Miss Hattie McAdam, daughter of Chaplain McAdam, Fort Omaha, is the guest of Mrs. General Brislin at Fort Niobrara. . . . Mr. Paul Edward Vollum, son of Dr. Vollum of the Army, is a guest at the Millard Hotel. . . . Lieutenants and Mrs. Chase, late of Fort Niobrara, have rented a house west of Mr. Colpeper's. . . . Colonel and Mrs. Henry gave a dinner last week, at which were present General and Mrs. Hawkins, Colonel and Mrs. Hall, Mr. G. Stebbins, and Mr. Berlin. . . . Colonel Henry has been chosen President of the Twelfth Night Club. . . . General Hay, Major has been made a warden in Trinity Vestry. . . . Major and Mrs. Wm. H. Powell gave an elegant party at Fort Omaha, on Saturday, in honor of Judge McMillan, U. S. Senator from Minnesota, who, with his wife and daughter, Miss McMillan, were spending a few days in Omaha en route to Washington. Among the guests present were Gen. and Mrs. Howard, Gen. and Mrs. Brock, Gen. and Mrs. Dandy, Major and Mrs. Brown, Col. and Mrs. Kent, Lieut. and Mrs. Price, Lieut. and Mrs. Newcomb, Miss Rice of Boston, Lieut. and Mrs. Andrews, Lieut. and Mrs. Hamilton, Major Neide, Capt. Quinn, and Lieut. Brown.

GENERAL J. C. TIDBALL, U. S. A., rejoined at Fort Monroe, Va., on Thursday from a brief absence.

CAPTAIN S. A. DAY, 5th U. S. Art., left Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., on Wednesday, to be absent until next week.

LIEUTENANT W. H. MILLER, 1st Cav., on leave from Fort Custer, is visiting friends at Tuscaloosa, Ala.

LIEUTENANT G. L. CONVERSE, 3d Cav., was at Fort Leavenworth this week, being examined by a Retiring Board.

LIEUTENANT H. T. ALLEN, 2d U. S. Cav., arrived in Washington from Vancouver Barracks on Tuesday.

CAPTAIN A. V. REED, U. S. N., of the *Minnesota*, visited his family in Washington this week.

COMMANDER A. G. KELLOGG, U. S. N., and family, returned this week to Washington from a visit to Ashtabula, O.

COLONEL JAMES S. BRISBIN, 9th Cav., returned to Fort Niobrara this week from his trip to St. Louis, to attend the Cattle Convention.

LIEUTENANT O. B. MITCHEM, U. S. A., was expected at Fort Douglas, Utah, this week, on a short official visit.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR M. C. GORGAS, U. S. N., registered at the Lafayette Hotel, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, and Asst. Surg. H. B. Fitts, C. S. N., at the Colonnade Hotel.

On Thursday of this week Gen. J. T. Owen read before the United Service Club, of Philadelphia, a paper on "The Peninsula Campaign, 1862." On Jan. 7 Colonel R. P. Dechert will read a paper on "The March to the Sea," and Chief Engr. Melville, U. S. N., one, Feb. 4, 1886, on "Polar Expeditions."

CHAPLAIN KANE, of the Navy, was a passenger on the *Umbria* which arrived at New York Nov. 29, and contributed a recitation, "Pauden O'Rafferty's 'Say' Voyage," to an entertainment given on board the day before landing. The collection, which was for the benefit of the New York and Liverpool Seamen's Orphanages, amounted to \$80.

LIEUTENANT J. A. SLADEN, 14th Infantry, lately A. D. C. on Gen. Howard's staff at Omaha, was very unfortunate on his arrival at Portland to join his regiment. A thief entered his bedroom at night and stole his new Army overcoat costing \$25, his wife's watch, and a quantity of money from his clothing, quite a serious loss in all.

THE *Bracket News* of Nov. 23 has these Fort Clark items:

Lt. Q. O. Gillmore has gone to New Mexico. . . . Col. G. F. Towle has returned, after having spent several months at Newcastle, N. H. . . . Chaplain Merrill now holds service of song at the Post Hall each Thursday evening. . . . The Fort Clark Social Club are to give their first hop at the Post Hall to-night. . . . Lt. A. G. Hammond has returned from New Mexico. . . . Col. Z. R. Bliss, 19th U. S. Inf., has just returned to San Antonio with his family. Col. Bliss is one of the most popular and genial officers in the State. He and his party are stopping at Miss Phillips's residence.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

A Californian in Washington this week said there was a great deal in the papers of late in regard to the temporary closing up the Weather Bureau office in San Francisco, but that the people of San Francisco took but little interest in it. "On the Pacific Coast," said he, "we have a rainy season and a dry season, and the weather predictions as issued by the San Francisco office were of no consequence, for the reason that every one knew when the seasons were on, and they knew as well as the officials in charge of the Weather Bureau Office when the change would occur and what they should look for."

Mr. A. W. Fletcher, who has been engaged as assistant to Mr. Calhoun, the expert accountant of the Navy Department, has been appointed chief clerk of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting, to succeed Mr. S. Henriques, who is reduced to a \$1,600 clerkship in the Bureau of Yards and Docks, taking the place of Mr. Partello, who resigned to accept a Consulship. Mr. Fletcher secured his appointment through the endorsement of the Hon. Samuel J. Randall and other influential Pennsylvanians. He is a gentleman of considerable executive ability and is very popular with the officials of the Navy Department, although his connection with that Department has been of short duration. The reason assigned for his predecessor's transfer is that a younger and more active man is desired for the office, Mr. Henriques having reached that age when less arduous duties are more in keeping with his capabilities. It was at first proposed to place Mr. Fletcher in charge of the Bureau of Accounts, which Mr. Calhoun established, but as he did not particularly like that line of work the other place was made for him. It is a question now who will be assigned to that duty. Mr. Calhoun is still holding on, but is desirous of turning over the books to somebody as soon as possible, in order to meet his private engagements in New York. Mr. H. F. Stickney, the disbursing clerk of the Department, was considered a good man for the place by the Secretary, but he much prefers to remain in his present place, and the Secretary is now looking elsewhere for a bookkeeper. Now that the Secretary has broken the ice as regards changes in the civil branches of his office, there is a feeling of much uncertainty among the higher-classed clerks, particularly the chief clerks of Bureaus. Whatever changes may be made will be attributed to the McCalla Board, although nobody knows what they have recommended. The change made this week is thought by many to be in accordance with the Board's report.

The case of Paymaster-General Smith will be argued in the United States Supreme Court on Monday next and the decision probably announced a week later. The Secretary of the Navy sent for Paymaster-General Smith one day last week and had a long consultation with him, which, according to the gossip, related to the much-talked-of compromise.

The President has appointed to be Marshal of the

District of Columbia, in place of Col. Clayton McMichael, resigned, Mr. A. A. Wilson, a prominent Democrat, President of the Columbia Club, a director in railway, insurance and other business corporations, and possessed of a fortune of about \$200,000. The President specifically announces, in making the appointment, that Mr. Wilson will not be called upon to perform any social duties at the White House.

2d Lieut. H. T. Allen, 2d Cav., arrived in Washington this week, under a telegraphic summons from the Adjutant General, to prepare his report on his recent explorations in Alaska. His discoveries in that country are considered the most important thus far made.

Asst. Adjutant General Volkmar left Washington this week on an extended inspection tour of recruiting rendezvous. He first visits Boston, and thence goes westward.

The following officers of the Army were registered at the office of the Adjutant General during the current week: Capt. B. M. Custer, 24th Inf., Ebbitt House, on leave; Capt. H. H. Ketchum, 22d Inf., 1324 11th street, on leave; 2d Lieut. T. B. Dugan, 3d Cav., Arlington, on leave; Capt. W. B. Atwell, retired, 1302 R street, N. W.; Col. James Oakes, retired, Riggs House; Col. John C. Tidball, 1st Art.; 2d Lieut. H. T. Allen, 2d Cav., Ebbitt House.

Mexican War claims were allowed by the 2d Comptroller during the past week as follows: 2d Lieut. J. L. Reno, Ord. Dept., \$100; Maj. John Munroe, U. S. Art., \$225; Bvt. Capt. Richard S. Elwell, K, 1st U. S. Dragoons, \$150; Col. Sylvester Churchill, Insp. Gen., \$262.20; Asst. Surg. John S. Griffin, U. S. A., \$150.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

RIVERSIDE PARK.

MOUNT MCGREGOR and Riverside Park are so closely associated by recent events that we cannot mention one without recalling the other; the former is pointed out to us as the place where a hero expired, the latter, where his precious remains repose silently beneath the National colors. Mount McGregor is known to the American public as a summer resort of local notoriety; Riverside Park, a suburb of the great commercial metropolis, overlooking the beautiful Hudson and its surrounding prospectus is a pleasure drive for the wealthy and aristocratic element of New York. As far as the Park itself is concerned it is uninviting; being without grass, trees, or shrubbery, it presents a dreary and forbidding appearance. Those two places from comparative obscurity, have come into National prominence, will pass into the annals of history, and will be handed down to posterity as precious spots, dear to the heart of every American citizen. The hero of Appomattox was educated on the banks of the Hudson, died on the banks of the Hudson, and is buried on the banks of the Hudson. What vicissitudes and coincidences! Truly the Hudson is an historic river. Napoleon overthrew the combined powers in five different coalitions, until Wellington on the plains of Waterloo asserted British supremacy and transferred the balance of power to English dominions. In our own country and time, the hero whose memory we honor and venerate saved the Republic at the point of the sword. As long as we cherish love, and admire great men and truly great deeds, the hero at Riverside Park will be honored and remembered; but when we become degenerate and in our degeneracy lose all love for whatever is beautiful and sublime in the deeds of great men, even then the historian will preserve the immortality of our hero with his pen and hand it down to a more appreciative race.

JOSEPH B. MCGLOUX, Batt. E, 5th Art.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF RANK.

REFERRING to that part of "Regimental's" remarks in your issue of November 14 in which he states "that the question of rank has never until now been disputed," etc., I think this is easily accounted for. During the past year a movement has been made to draw larger bodies of troops together and reduce the number of posts in the interests of economy and efficiency, and I will briefly show where the shoe pinches the "General N. C. S." A regiment, with its headquarters, is ordered to take station at a new post; quarters are found insufficient for the "General" and "Regimental" N. C. S., and, under the present ruling, the former, often an old soldier of 20 or 25 years' service, finds himself turned out of quarters, in some instances, by a "Regimental" Sergeant-Major or Q. M. Sergeant, who has not half his years of service either as a soldier or a N. C. officer.

H. F.

THE MOHICAN'S CRUISE.

To the Editor of the New York Times:

In view of the gauntlet of criticism through which the *Mohican* has recently passed, the following data relative to her performance at sea may be of special interest to the public. The *Mohican* left Payta, Peru, on Nov. 8, and ran to Panama in 103 hours, a distance of over 900 miles, at the rate of nine knots per hour. Selecting three different conditions and periods, the following summary was obtained:

First—Nov. 9, observations during eight consecutive hours: Light favorable breezes, smooth sea; average speed per hour, 8.66 knots; coal consumption per 24 hours, 12.9 tons; average pressure of steam, 40 pounds; average revolutions of propeller, 41.8 per minute—using four of eight boilers.

Second—Nov. 10 and 11, observation during 48 consecutive hours: Sea smooth, light breezes; speed, 8.9 knots; coal per diem, 14.9 tons; steam, 45 pounds; revolutions, 43.2 per minute; using five of eight boilers.

Third—Nov. 12, observation during eight hours: Light, contrary winds; speed, 10.2 per hour; coal per diem, 23 tons; steam 70 pounds; revolutions, 52 per minute; using seven of eight boilers.

The ship was laboring under disadvantages in each case, and with certain repairs it is confidently expected that the *Mohican's* record of ability for economic steaming and for speed will equal that of any vessel of her tonnage in the Navy. MOHICAN.

UNITED STATES STEAMER MOHICAN, Panama, Thursday, Nov. 12, 1885.

THE ARMY.

GROVER CLEVELAND, President and Comdr.-in-Chief.
William C. Endicott, Secretary of War.
John Tweedale, Chief Clerk, War Department.

Lieut.-Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, comdg. the Army of the United States, Washington, D. C.
Brig.-Gen. R. C. Drum, Adjutant-General.

Brig.-General Absalom Baird, Senior Inspector-General.
Brig.-General David G. Swaim, Judge-Advocate-General.-In suspension.
Brig.-General S. B. Holabird, Quartermaster-General.
Brig.-General R. Macfeely, Commissary General of Subsistence.
Brig.-General Robert Murray, Surgeon-General.
Brig.-General William B. Rochester, Paymaster-General.
Brig.-General John Newton, Chief of Engineers.
Brig.-General Stephen V. Benet, Chief of Ordnance.
Brig.-General W. B. Hazen, Chief Signal Officer.

G. O. 121, H. Q. A., Nov. 30, 1885.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Nov. 30, 1885.

By direction of the President, the District of New Mexico is temporarily transferred to the Department of Arizona. The administrative affairs of the district will be conducted from Headquarters Division of the Missouri, and the commanding general Department of Arizona will make all his requisitions for the wants of the District of New Mexico to the commanding general of that division.

WM. C. ENDICOTT, Secretary of War.
By command of Lieut. Gen. Sheridan:
R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

WAR DEPARTMENT, A. G. O., Nov. 25, 1885.

The following proclamation of the President of the United States is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Nov. 25, 1885.

To the People of the United States:

Thomas A. Hendricks, Vice-President of the United States, died to-day at 5 o'clock P. M., at Indianapolis, and it becomes my mournful duty to announce the distressing fact to his fellow countrymen.

In respect to the memory and the eminent and varied services of this high official and patriotic public servant, whose long career was so full of usefulness and honor to his State and to the United States, it is ordered that the national flag be displayed at half-mast upon all the public buildings of the United States; that the Executive Mansion and the several Executive Departments in the city of Washington be closed on the day of the funeral, and be draped in mourning for the period of thirty days; that the usual and appropriate military and naval honors be rendered; and that on all the legations and consulates of the United States in foreign countries the national flag shall be displayed at half-mast on the reception of this order, and the usual emblems of mourning be adopted for thirty days.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

By the President:

T. F. BAYARD,
Secretary of State.

On the day next succeeding the receipt of this order at each military post the troops will be paraded at 10 o'clock, A. M., and this order read to them.

The national flag will be displayed at half-mast. At dawn of day thirteen guns will be fired. Commencing at 12 o'clock M. nineteen minute guns will be fired, and at the close of the day the national salute of thirty-eight guns.

The usual badge of mourning will be worn by officers of the Army, and the colors of the several regiments, of the United States Corps of Cadets, and of the Battalion of Engineers will be put in mourning for the period of thirty days.

By order of the Secretary of War:

R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

G. O. 33, DEPT. OF COLUMBIA, Nov. 4, 1885.

Modifies G. O. 22 so as to require semi-annual requisitions for ordnance and ordnance stores, to be made during the months of October and April for the half years beginning January 1 and July 1, following, and to be sent to the Chief Ordnance Officer direct, and directs that such arms as need renewal by re-brazing or other repairs for which there are no facilities at posts be sent to the Vancouver Barracks Ordnance Depot.

CIRCULAR 7, DIST. OF NEW MEXICO, Nov. 24, 1885.

Publishes a statement showing prevailing cost of forage at posts in the District of New Mexico:

Fort Bayard—Hay \$1.23, corn \$1.63, oats \$1.95 (per 100 lbs.)
Fort Bliss—Hay \$1.33 (per ton), corn \$1.31, oats \$1.59
Fort Lewis—Hay \$1, corn \$2.43, oats \$2.5 (per 100 lbs.)
Fort Selden—Hay 75 cents, corn \$1.27, oats \$1.54 (per 100 lbs.)
Fort Stanton—Hay \$1.25, corn \$2.19, oats \$2.52 (per 100 lbs.)
Fort Union—Hay \$1.09 (per ton), corn \$1.12, oats \$1.30
Fort Wingate—Hay \$1.10, corn \$1.43, oats \$1.73 (per 100 lbs.)
Santa Fe—Hay 75 cents, corn \$1.15, oats \$1.38 (per 100 lbs.)

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

General Officers.

Major General Hancock, accompanied by his staff, will, at 10 o'clock A. M., Dec. 1, 1885, attend the parade of the troops at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., and the reading of the order of the Honorable Secretary of War, of November 25, publishing the proclamation of the President of the United States announcing the death of Vice President Thomas A. Hendricks (S. O. 92, Nov. 30, D. Atlanta).

Adjutant and Inspector Generals.

During the absence of Lieut. Col. Henry M. Lazelle, 23d Inf., A. I. G., Major H. Clay Wood, A. A. G., will, in addition to his other duties, perform the duties of Inspector General of the Department (G. O. 35, Nov. 20, D. Columbia).

Quartermasters and Subsistence Departments.

S. O. 250, granting Major Charles W. Foster, Q. M., leave for twenty-five days, from Nov. 5, is amended so as to grant him leave for one month, from Nov. 13 (S. O., Nov. 25, H. Q. A.).

Medical Department.

Asst. Surg. C. K. Winne is assigned to duty as post surgeon at Benicia Barracks and attending surgeon at Benicia Arsenal, Cal., and will take post at Benicia Barracks as soon as the quarters at that post, now occupied by the sick family of Asst. Surg. Edward Everts, are vacated (S. O. 109, Nov. 20, D. Cal.).
A. A. Surg. Chas. F. Mason will proceed from N. Y. City to West Point, N. Y., for duty (S. O., Nov. 30, H. Q. A.).
1st Lieut. Edward Everts, Asst. Surg., is detailed a member of the G. C. M. instituted at Benicia

Barracks, Cal., by par. 3, S. O. 30, c. s., D. Cal. (S. O. 110, Nov. 22, D. Cal.).

1st Lieut. Edward Everts, Asst. Surg., is relieved as a member of the G. C. M. instituted at Benicia Barracks, Cal., by virtue of par. 3, S. O. 93, c. s., D. Cal. (S. O. 108, Nov. 17, D. Cal.).

Asst. Surg. Daniel M. Appel will proceed to Fort Montgomery, Rouse's Point, N. Y., and execute the special instructions communicated to him, returning to Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., upon their completion (S. O. 254, Dec. 2, D. East).

Surg. Jas. C. McKee, M. D., having reported Nov. 15, and having relinquished the unexpired portion of his leave on surgeon's certificate, will resume his duties as medical director, Dept. of Columbia (G. O. 34, Nov. 16, D. Columbia).

Hospital Steward D. B. Miller is relieved from duty at Fort Thomas, and will proceed to Fort Bowie for duty, relieving Hospital Steward J. C. Evans, who will proceed to Fort Thomas for duty (S. O. 113, Nov. 19, D. Arizona).

Hospital Steward Patrick O'Neill was re-appointed, Nov. 18, 1885, for Corp., B, 5th Art., and ordered to Arizona for duty.

Hospital Steward Wm. H. Dail was discharged by expiration of service, at Vancouver Barracks, W. T., Oct. 18, 1885.

Hospital Steward Frederick W. Orth is relieved from duty at St. Francis Barracks, Fla., and will proceed to Newport Barracks, Ky., and report for duty, relieving Hospital Steward Charles F. Materne, who thereupon will be granted a furlough for three months (S. O. 255, Dec. 3, D. East).

Engineers and Ordnance Department.

Leave of absence for two months is granted 1st Lieut. Wm. Young, C. E. (S. O., Nov. 30, H. Q. A.).

1st Lieut. Orin B. Mitcham, Ord. Dept., Chief Ordnance Officer, Dept. of the Platte, will proceed to Fort Douglas, Utah, and make a thorough inspection of all the arms of the 6th Inf., stationed at that post. Upon completion of this duty Lieut. Mitcham will return to his station, Cheyenne Depot, Wyo. (S. O. 118, Nov. 27, D. P.).

Chaplains.

Leave for ten days, to take effect Nov. 23, is granted Chaplain T. W. Barry (S. O. 173, Nov. 20, Dept. Mo.).

Leave for three days is granted Chaplain O. E. Herrick (Orders 169, Dec. 1, Fort Monroe, Va.).

Signal Corps.

Sergt. Wm. Finn, Signal Corps, will report to the Chief Signal Officer for duty at this office (S. O. 107, Nov. 23, Sig. O.).

THE LINE.

The Stations of Companies not mentioned here will be found by reference to last number of the JOURNAL.

1st Cavalry, Colonel N. A. M. Dudley.

Hdgrs., B. D. G. K., and M., Ft. Custer, Mont.; A. C. and F., Ft. Maginnis, Mont.; J., Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; E., Ft. Ellis, Mont.; H. and L., Ft. Assiniboine, Mont.

Leave for three months, to take effect about Dec. 15, is granted 2d Lieut. D. L. Tate (S. O., Nov. 23, H. Q. A.).

The Supt. Mounted Recruiting Service will cause thirty-six recruits to be prepared and forwarded to Fort Snelling, Minn., for assignment to the 1st Cav. (S. O., Dec. 2, H. Q. A.).

Sergt. Chas. Crowley, stationed at the Presidio, has issued a challenge to any soldier at the Presidio or in the U. S. Army to a mounted sword contest for the championship of the same.

2nd Cavalry, Colonel John P. Hatch.

Hdgrs., B. E. F. G., and I., Ft. Walla Walla, Wash. T.; A. and K., Presidio San Francisco, Cal.; C. and G., Ft. Bidwell, Cal.; D., Boise Barracks, Idaho; H., Ft. Spokane, Wash. T.; L., Ft. Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; M., Ft. Klamath, Ore.

Private Geo. E. Miller, Troop H, has qualified as a sharpshooter.

4th Cavalry, Colonel William B. Royall.

Hdgrs., B. D., and I., Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.; F. and H., Ft. Lowell, Ariz.; A. and K., Ft. Apache, Ariz.; C. and G., Ft. Bowie, Ariz.; E. and M., Ft. McDowell, Ariz.; L., Fort Leavenworth, Kas.

Capt. Wirt Davis will proceed, Nov. 21, with the 1st Batt. of Indian Scouts and three pack trains to Guadalupe Canon, N. M., where he will be joined by Capt. Dorst's Troop K, 4th Cav. Capt. Davis will then with his command proceed to Mexico in pursuit of the hostile Apaches, and will carry out the special instructions given him by the Dept. Comdr. (F. O. 147, Nov. 20, D. Ariz.).

Leave for one month, with permission to apply to the proper authority for an extension of one month, is granted Maj. E. B. Beaumont (F. O. 47, Nov. 20, D. Ariz.).

5th Cavalry, Colonel Wesley Merritt.

Hdgrs., D. E. H. K., and L., Ft. Riley, Kas.; A. F. I. and M., Ft. Supply, Ind. T.; B. C. G., and K., Ft. Reno, Ind. T.

The leave granted 2d Lieut. Henry De H. Waite, Fort Monroe, Va., Nov. 23, is extended four days (S. O. 251, Nov. 27, D. East.).

1st Sergt. George K. Kitchen, Troop I, now at Fort Supply, I. T., will be sent to Fort Riley for medical treatment (S. O. 174, Nov. 24, Dept. M.).

6th Cavalry, Colonel Eugene A. Carr.

Hdgrs., C. G., and L., Ft. Bayard, N. M.; A. I. and K., Ft. Wingate, N. M.; B. and F., Ft. Lewis, Colo.; D. E. and H., Ft. Stanton, N. M.; M., Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.

Capt. H. M. Kendall will proceed to Fort Wingate, N. M., to consult retained papers, and to attend to troop business (S. O. 72, Nov. 23, D. N. M.).

7th Cavalry, Colonel Samuel D. Sturgis.

Hdgrs., A. C. E. H. K., and M., Ft. Meade, Dak.; B. and D. Ft. Yates, Dak.; F. and L., Ft. Buford, Dak.; G. Ft. Keogh, Mont.; I., Ft. Totten, Dak.

The leave granted 2d Lieut. John C. Waterman is extended one month (S. O., Nov. 25, H. Q. A.).

The leave granted Major John M. Bacon is extended two months (S. O., Nov. 23, H. Q. A.).

8th Cavalry, Colonel Elmer Otis.

Hdgrs., C. and H., San Antonio, Tex.; A. Ft. McIntosh, Tex.; I., Ft. Ringgold, Tex.; D. Camp Del Rio, Tex.; E. F. G. K., and L., Ft. Clark, Tex.; B. and M., Ft. Brown, Tex.

On the arrival at Hillsboro of 1st Lieut. Quincy O. M. Gillmore, 2d Lieut. Joseph A. Gaston, temporarily attached to Troop G, will proceed to join his troop (H) at Malone, N. M. (S. O. 72, Nov. 23, D. N. M.).

9th Cavalry, Colonel Edward Hatch.

Hdgrs., B. D. E. H. and L., Ft. McKinney, Wyo.; C. F. and K., Ft. Robinson, Neb.; A. G. and I., Ft. Niobrara, Neb.; M. Ft. Washakie, Wyo.

The leave granted Lieut.-Col. James S. Brislin, Fort Niobrara, Neb., is extended ten days (S. O. 117, Nov. 23, D. Platte.).

The leave granted 2d Lieut. Eugene F. Ladd is extended one month (S. O. 142, Nov. 30, Div. M.).

Leave for two months and fifteen days, to take effect about Dec. 15, is granted Capt. Michael Cooney (S. O., Nov. 23, H. Q. A.).

10th Cavalry, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.

Hdgrs. and B. Whipple Bks., A. T.; A. Ft. Apache, A. T.; I. and M., Ft. Verde, A. T.; C. F. and G. Ft. Thomas, A. T.; D. E. H. K., and L., Ft. Grant, A. T.

2nd Artillery, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.

Hdgrs., G. and L., St. Francis Bks., Fla.; A. and E. Little Rock Bks., Ark.; B. and H. Atlanta, Ga.; C. and D. Mount Vernon Bks., Ala.; F. Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; K. Ft. Monroe, Va.; I. and M., Jackson Bks., La.

* Light battery.

3rd Artillery, Colonel Horatio G. Gibson.

Hdgrs., A. C. E. H. K., and L., Washington Bks., D. C.; B. Newport Bks., Ky.; D. G. and I., Ft. McHenry, Md.; M. Ft. Monroe, Va.; F. Ft. San Antonio, Tex.

* Light battery.

Major Edward B. Williston will report in person to the Chief of Ordnance for special duty relating to the subject of supplying ammunition to troops in battle, etc. (S. O., Nov. 23, H. Q. A.).

4th Artillery, Colonel Clermont L. Best.

Hdgrs., B. D. E. G. and L., Ft. Adams, R. I.; A. and C. Ft. Trumbull, Conn.; F. Ft. Snelling, Minn.; H. and K. Ft. Warren, Mass.; I. Ft. Monroe, Va.; M. Ft. Preble, Me.

5th Artillery, Colonel John Hamilton.

Hdgrs., F. I. L. and M., Ft. Hamilton, N. Y.; A. C. and H. Ft. Columbus, N. Y.; G. Ft. Monroe, Va.; B. Ft. Wadsworth, N. Y.; D. Ft. Omaha, Neb.; E. and K. Ft. Schuyler, N. Y.

Leave for one month, to commence on Dec. 9, is granted 2d Lieut. Samuel E. Allen, Inspector of Rifle Practice (S. O. 252, Nov. 30, D. East.).

Leave for two months, to commence on or about Dec. 20, is granted 2d Lieut. William F. Hancock, Fort Schuyler, N. Y. H. (S. O. 93, Dec. 1, Div. A.).

Sergt. T. V. Turney, Bat. G, sergeant-major, Fort Monroe, is detailed on extra duty in charge of the Artillery School printing office, book bindery, lithographic press, and as proof-reader, type-writer, and custodian of the Artillery School records (S. O. 78, Dec. 1, Art. School.).

Private Thos. V. Turney has been appointed sergeant, Corp. Dennis Gallagher appointed sergeant, and Private Peter Ohlsen promoted corporal, all in Bat. G (Fort Monroe).

Private Frank Engelhardt has been appointed corporal in Bat. A.

Co. E, 12th Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., entertained Bat. B, 5th Artillery, at supper Wednesday evening of last week at Central Hall. Speeches were made by Capt. Eagle, Lieut.-Col. Dowd, Capt. Brady and Murphy, and Sergt. Grimes.

1st Infantry, Colonel William R. Shafter.

Hdgrs. and B. Ft. Grant, A. T.; A. Ft. Apache, A. T.; C. Ft. Huachuca, A. T.; D. Ft. McDowell, A. T.; K. Ft. Verde, A. T.; I. Ft. Bowie, A. T.; G. Ft. Mojave, A. T.; H. Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; F. Ft. Lowell, A. T.; E. Whipple Bks., A. T.

Leave for two months, on Surgeon's certificate of disability, is granted Capt. Leopold Parker, Fort Lowell, A. T., with permission to go beyond the limits of this Division (S. O. 109, Nov. 23, Div. P.).

1st Lieut. F. H. Edmunds is relieved from duty as recruiting officer at Fort Leavenworth (S. O. 174, Nov. 24, Dept. M.).

A furlough for six months with permission to go beyond the sea is granted to Pvt. John Hall, Co. B, to take effect after his re-enlistment (S. O. 115, Nov. 25, D. Ariz.).

2nd Infantry, Colonel Frank Wheaton.

Hdgrs., D. E. F. and K., Ft. Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; C. G. and H. Ft. Spokane, W. T.; I. Boise Bks., Idaho; J. Ft. Klamath, Ore.; A. Ft. Townsend, Wash. T.

Col. Frank Wheaton will inspect subsistence stores at Fort Coeur d'Alene, for which 1st Lieut. Sidney E. Clark, Post Commissary, is accountable (S. O. 197, Nov. 18, D. Columbia.).

Lieuts. L. S. Ames and H. H. Benham, 1st Sergt. J. Stahl, Sergts. T. Tackaberry and T. N. Wooley, Corp. W. H. Gore and G. W. Benson, and Private P. Kelly, Co. A. and Private J. H. Mayhew, Co. G, have qualified as sharpshooters.

3rd Infantry, Colonel John R. Brooke.

Hdgrs., A. G. H. and K., Ft. Snaw, M. T.; B. D. F. and I. Ft. Missoula, M. T.; C. and E. Ft. Ellis, M. T.

Leave for three months, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, is granted 2d Lieut. Francis P. Fremont, to take effect when the 1st lieutenant of his company shall have rejoined it from leave of absence (S. O., Dec. 2, H. Q. A.).

4th Infantry, Colonel William P. Carlin.

Hdgrs., B. D. E. G. I. and K., Ft. Omaha, Neb.; A. Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; C. Ft. Robinson, Neb.; F. and H. Ft. Niobrara, Neb.

2d Lieut. George N. Chase is announced as Aide-de-Camp to Brig.-Gen. Howard, commanding, from this date (G. O. 18, Nov. 9, D. Platte.).

5th Infantry, Colonel August V. Kautz.

Hdgrs., C. H. and K. Angel Island, Cal.; A. and B. Benicia Bks., Cal.; G. Ft. Gaston, Cal.; E. Ft. Halleck, Nev.; D. San Diego Bks., Cal.; F. Ft. Bidwell, Cal.; I. Ft. McDermitt, Nev.

2d Lieut. Samuel E. Smiley will relieve 2d Lieut. R. F. Ames in the duties of J.-A. of the G. C. M. instituted at Benicia Barracks, Cal., by virtue of par. 3, S. O. 93, D. Cal., and 2d Lieut. R. F. Ames is detailed a member of the said court, in place of 1st Lieut. Edward Everts, Asst. Surg., relieved (S. O. 103, Nov. 18, D. Cal.).

Capt. Charles Porter is relieved as a member of the G. C. M. instituted at Benicia Barracks, Cal., by virtue of par. 3, S. O. 93, D. Cal. (S. O. 110, Nov. 23, D. Cal.).

9th Infantry, Colonel John S. Mason.

Hdgrs., A. C. D. E. F. H. I. and K., Ft. D. A. Russell, Wyo.; B. and G. Ft. Bridger, Wyo.

The leave granted Capt. Leonard Hay is extended fifteen days (S. O. 142, Nov. 30, Div. M.).

The leave granted 2d Lieut. Albert S. McNutt is extended fifteen days (S. O. 143, Dec. 2, Div. M.).

10th Infantry, Colonel Henry Douglass.

Hdgrs., B. C. F. and I. Ft. Union, N. M.; A. and E. Ft. Lyon, Colo.; D. and H. Ft. Bliss, Tex.; G. and K. Uncompahgre, Colo.

Capt. John B. Parke will inspect C. and G. E. at

the Cavalry Recruiting Rendezvous, Baltimore, for which Capt. Gilbert E. Overton, 6th Cav., recruiting officer, is responsible (S. O., Nov. 28, H. Q. A.)

11th Infantry, Colonel Richard I. Dodge.

Hdqs., A. D. E. and K., Ft. Sully, D. T.; B and F, Ft. A. Lincoln, B. T.; C and H, Ft. Buford, D. T.; G, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; I, Ft. Bennett, D. T.

2d Lieut. J. R. Macklin is appointed recruiting officer at Fort Leavenworth (S. O. 174, Nov. 24, Dept. M.)

12th Infantry, Colonel Orlando B. Wilcox.

Hdqs., A, B, D, F, G, and I, Madison Bks., N. Y.; C, Plattsburgh Bks., N. Y.; E and K, Ft. Niagara, N. Y.; H, Ft. Ontario, N. Y.

1st Lieut. William W. Wotherspoon, R. Q. M., will proceed to Albany, N. Y., thence to Division Headquarters, Governor's Island, on public business connected with certain accounts presented in connection with the obsequies of the late General Grant (S. O. 94, Dec. 3, Div. A.)

15th Infantry, Colonel Joseph N. G. Whistler.

Hdqs., E, and F, Ft. Buford, D. T.; A, G, D, and H, Ft. Randall, B. T.; B and I, Ft. Pembina, D. T.; G and K, Camp Poplar River, M. T.

The leave granted 1st Lieut. Thomas F. Davis is extended one month (S. O. 141, Nov. 27, Div. M.)

18th Infantry, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.

Hdqs., E, and F, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; A, B, and D, Ft. Hays, Kas.; C and I, Ft. Gibson, I. T.; G, H, and K, Ft. Riley, Kas.

19th Infantry, Colonel Charles H. Smith.

Hdqs., B, C, D, E, F, and K, Ft. Clark, Tex.; A, H, and I, Ft. Bliss, Tex.; G, Ft. Brown, Tex.

Lieut.-Col. Zenas R. Bliss is detailed an additional member of the G. C.-M. at the post of San Antonio (S. O. 151, Nov. 23, D. Tex.)

21st Infantry, Colonel Henry A. Morrow.

Hdqs., A, C, E, F, and G, Ft. Sidney, Neb.; B, I, and K, Ft. Fred. Steele, Wyo.; D and H, Ft. Bridger, Wyo.

Leave for one month is granted 2d Lieut. Edward H. Brooke, Fort Sidney, Neb. (S. O. 117, Nov. 23, D. Platte.)

23rd Infantry, Colonel Henry M. Black.

Hdqs., F, G, H, and I, Ft. Wayne, Mich.; A and B, Ft. Brady, Mich.; C and D, Ft. Porter, N. Y.; E and K, Ft. Mackinac, Mich.

Lieut.-Col. Henry M. Lazelle, A. I. G., will proceed to Washington, D. C., and report in person to the Adjutant-General of the Army (S. O. 195, Nov. 16, D. Columbia.)

The C. O. Fort Mackinac, Mich., will issue a furlough for one month to 1st Sergt. Thomas Hennessey, Co. E (S. O. 254, Dec. 2, D. East.)

24th Infantry, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.

Hdqs., D, and H, Ft. Supply, Ind. T.; A and K, Ft. Reno, Ind. T.; B and F, Ft. Elliott, Tex.; C, E, G, and I, Ft. Sill, Ind. T.

The leave granted 1st Lieut. William H. W. James is extended two months (S. O., Nov. 28, H. Q. A.)

25th Infantry, Colonel George L. Andrews.

Hdqs., B, C, F, and I, Ft. Snelling, Minn.; A, D, H, and K, Ft. Meade, Dak.; E and G, Ft. Sisseton, Dak.

Leave for three months, to take effect about Dec. 15, is granted 1st Lieut. Jas. C. Ord (S. O., Nov. 28, H. Q. A.)

Appointments, Promotions, Retirements, Transfers, Casualties, etc., of Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army recorded in the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, November 28, 1885.

CASUALTY.

Lieutenant-Colonel James Simons (retired), died November 11, 1885, at Baltimore, Maryland.

Military Academy.

The resignation of Cadet Henry David Alexander, 4th Class, is accepted (S. O., Nov. 28, H. Q. A.)

Courts-martial.

The following courts have been ordered:

At Whipple Barracks, A. T., Nov. 23. Detail: Col. B. H. Grierson, Capt. R. G. Smither, and 1st Lieut. M. M. Maxon, R. Q. M., 10th Cav.; 1st Lieut. C. C. Barrows, Asst. Surg.; 2d Lieut. C. B. Vogdes, 1st Inf.; 2d Lieut. J. B. Hughes, 10th Cav., and 1st Lieut. S. L. Woodward, Adj., 10th Cav., J.-A. (S. O. 113, Nov. 19, D. Ariz.)

At Fort Ringgold, Tex., Dec. 1. Detail: Major W. L. Kellogg and Capt. E. H. Liscum, 19th Inf.; Capt. J. J. Kane, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. A. H. M. Taylor, 19th Inf.; 2d Lieut. J. A. Johnston, 8th Cav.; 2d Lieut. C. S. Fowler, 19th Inf.; 2d Lieut. W. F. Flynn, 8th Cav., and 1st Lieut. R. L. Robertson, Asst. Surg., J.-A. (S. O. 152, Nov. 24, D. Tex.)

At Fort Laramie, Wyo., Dec. 3. Detail: Capt. Richard Comba, Henry B. Freeman, James M. J. Sanno, and Charles A. Coolidge, 7th Inf.; Capt. Louis Brechemin, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. Daniel Robinson, Frederick M. H. Kendrick, George S. Young, Francis Woodbridge, James B. Jackson, and Daniel A. Frederick, and 2d Lieut. Selah R. H. Tompkins, 7th Inf., and 2d Lieut. Daniel L. Howell, 7th Inf., J.-A. (S. O. 117, Nov. 23, D. Platte.)

At Fort Barrancas, Fla., Dec. 7. Detail: Lieut.-Col. Loomis L. Langdon, Capt. James E. Wilson and Frank C. Gragan, 1st Lieut. Medorem Crawford, Jr., 2d Lieut. C. F. Parker, 2d Art., and 1st Lieut. Victor H. Bridgman, 2d Art., J.-A. (S. O. 254, Dec. 2, D. East.)

At West Point, N. Y., Dec. 9. Detail: Capt. William F. Spurgin, 21st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Henry A. Reed, 2d Art.; 1st Lieut. George B. Davis, 5th Cav.; 1st Lieut. William A. Simpson, 2d Art.; 1st Lieut. Henry Kirby, 10th Inf.; 2d Lieut. John R. Totten, 4th Art.; 2d Lieut. Francis J. A. Darr, 12th Inf., and 2d Lieut. William P. Evans, 19th Inf., J.-A. (S. O., Dec. 2, H. Q. A.)

Army Boards.

A Board of Officers, to consist of Major Isaac Arnold, Ord. Dept.; Capt. J. M. Lancaster, 3d Art., and 2d Lieut. Elias Chandler, 16th Inf., will assemble at the San Antonio Depot, Nov. 24, to examine the work done by Mr. Thomas Franklin under his contract (S. O. 151, Nov. 23, D. Tex.)

Engineer Battalion.—In orders of Nov. 23 Gen. H. L. Abbo: announces the course of winter instruction at the Engineer School of Application, Willet's

Point. The course includes submarine mining, chemistry and military photography, military and civil engineering, meteorology, infantry drills and recitations of enlisted men. The course is a thorough one, and those who wish to learn will have every opportunity to do so.

Transfers to Signal Corps.—Referring to frequent applications for transfer of enlisted men from the line to the Signal Corps, the Lieutenant-General announces that such transfers will not be favorably considered, and that it is unnecessary to forward them. (A. G. O., Nov. 25, 1885.)

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Dept. of Dakota.—Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry.

Information has been received at the Interior Department that everything is quiet at the Cheyenne Agency on the Rose Bud River.

Dept. of the East.—Major Gen. W. S. Hancock.

An Atlanta, Ga., correspondent writes: "Captain J. W. Jacobs, U. S. A., is here and the new barracks will be energetically progressed with. Col. Langdon and the batteries of the 2d U. S. Artillery, lately at Camp Mitchell, have 'folded their tents' and returned to Pensacola. Their commander, and his officers and men, built up a good military reputation while here, and our citizens were loath to see them depart."

General Hancock directed that at the conclusion, Dec. 1, of the parade of the troops at Fort Columbus, and the reading of the order of the Secretary of War, Nov. 25, publishing the proclamation of the President announcing the death of Vice President Hendricks, all public business at Division and Department H. Q., and at Fort Columbus, other than the necessary military duties be suspended for the day.

Dept. of the Platte.—Brig. Gen. O. O. Howard.

A new "Roster of Troops" dated Nov. 10, is replete under the head of "Notes," with useful information concerning the recent operations of the troops at Rock Springs, Wyo., at the Camp of Instruction at Goose Creek, Wyo., and at Camp Murray near Peoa, Utah, etc.

The reports of rifle firing so far received at Dept. Headquarters show the figures of merit of 9th, 21st, and 4th regiments of Infantry, to be 71, 64, and 52 respectively, and skirmish figures of merit of 40, 38, and 32. The troops at Fort Omaha, who constitute a large portion of the 4th Inf., had only practice 6 weeks of the practice season, and their work is most creditable. In the above three regiments there are 1, 16, and 23 3d classmen, respectively, against, last year, 139, 201, and 163 of the same class; showing a very steady improvement. The skirmish average of the Department will be about 35.

Dept. of the Columbia.—Brig. Gen. John Gibbon.

Governor Squire, of Washington Territory, in his report to Secretary Lamar, gives the population of the Territory as 129,438, an increase of 36,930 in two years. The assessed value of property is \$50,484,437, and there are yet 23,000,000 acres of the public land unsurveyed, of which 16,000,000 acres are good agricultural and timber land.

Department of Arizona.—Brig.-Gen. Geo. Crook.

Early in the week Gen. Crook telegraphed to A. G. O. as follows: "Sanchez brought into Fort Apache last evening the head of one of the hostiles, named Ogare Queilah. He also reports that the hostiles are killing all the White Mountain Indians they can find scattered over the reservation. It seems probable that up to this time they have killed eleven women, four children, and five men and boys. The White Mountains threaten to retaliate on the Chiricahuas remaining on the reservation, but these are close to Fort Apache and carefully guarded. The Indians on the reservation are extremely aroused, and several parties of scouts and troops are hunting the hostiles. All the Indian camps have been notified. There is reason to hope that more of the hostiles will be killed."

A despatch of Dec. 1, from Santa Fe, says General Crook to-day issued the following order:

"In accordance with instructions from the Lieut. Gen. of the Army, the undersigned hereby assume command of the District of New Mexico."

"George Crook, Brig. Gen., Comdg. Dept. of Arizona."

The transfer of New Mexico to the Department of Arizona gives great satisfaction here, people of the Territory believing that Gen. Crook is the best man in the service to manage the campaign against the hostiles. Santa Fe remains the headquarters of the district.

A despatch of Dec. 1, from Tucson, says Chiricahuas Indians killed a driver of the Graham bullion team on Sunday night, 16 miles from the San Carlos Agency. The reservation has been raided for sixty miles. The renegades crossed the Gila River, going south at the subagency. Gen. Sheridan and his aides arrived at Fort Bowie, Nov. 30, where he is conferring with Gen. Crook.

Lieut. Maus, 1st Inf., with Chief of Scouts Harrison, arrived at Tombstone Dec. 1, from Crawford's command, now in Middle Pass, Dragon Mountains. Chatto, now the head chief remaining with the Chiricahuas, on the reservation, telegraphed Sunday to Crawford's Apache scouts to kill all the hostiles now out, as until this is done they may not expect peace nor safety for their families or animals. Lieut. Maus reports that there were eleven Indians in the raiding party. One of them, son of the late notorious Chief Juh, was killed by Sanchez, a White Mountain chief, who, with some scouts, pursued the raiders. Another of the marauders was badly wounded. The band now out said they would never return to the reservation until they had killed Chatto. The hostile Chiricahuas are endeavoring to recapture their families now prisoners at Ft. Bowie and San Carlos. The discussions which has sprung up among the members of the Chiricahuas tribe will have an important bearing on the settlement of the Indian war. Lieut. Maus returned to his command

in the afternoon, making an unbroken ride of 50 miles.

A special from Tombstone says: "Indians attacked the town of Duncan Dec. 2, and cut the telegraph wire between Wilcox and Fort Grant. The Indians are between Percy's ranch and Camp Grant. A still later despatch says that a courier from D. H. Smith's store was chased into Fort Grant. It is feared that all the families in that vicinity have been murdered."

Dept. of Texas.—Brig. Gen. D. S. Stanley.

Gen. Stanley, in his annual report says: "The Rio Grande, separating this Department from the States of Mexico, gives a front of more than one thousand miles; throughout its entire length there is constantly a smuggling commerce carried on with more or less profit. It is occupied, on either side, by stockmen rather than agriculturists. In many cases these stockraisers have land on both sides, with residences either in Texas or Mexico. With a sparse population, not very highly civilized, with an extradition treaty so defective as to be wholly inoperative, it is not so strange that crime is committed upon this border as that there is so little of it. The powers of the military authorities are very restricted; but experience shows that the presence of troops has a most beneficial effect in keeping down robbery and even disturbance. The orders of the Department require constant scouts to be kept up from the mouth of the Rio Grande to the mouth of the Pecos with occasional scouts from Fort Davis to the border south of that post. The posts of Fort Concho and Fort Stockton are still kept up, with no other reason than that there are no quarters for their garrisons elsewhere, and the danger, judging from the outcry of the citizens in the vicinity of the posts, of anarchy, should the troops be taken away. The small sub-posts upon the line of the Southern Pacific Railroad and the lower Rio Grande are still maintained, securing peace and safety to these great routes of travel. It is recommended that the old post of Fort Duncan be re-garrisoned at least as a sub-post, as it commands one of the principal highways into Mexico, and is well situated for observing and scouting the river. The permanent posts, where the titles have been vested in the United States, have all been slightly improved during the past year, and measures have been taken to continue improvements during the coming fiscal year. It is discouraging that the amounts allowed for barracks and quarters are totally inadequate to the necessities of the several posts."

"The general state of discipline in this Department is good."

"The late act of Congress, providing for a retired list of enlisted men, has undoubtedly improved their prospects; and we should raise the standard of merit, and at the same time correct the wording of soldiers' discharges. Only good or bad should be allowed in giving characters on discharge papers. Scaling a man's character as one would the price of cotton or the quality of a lot of beaves, is absurd and misleading; and when an officer gives a bad character to a discharged soldier he should, as a basis therefor, show the number of times the man has been beaten or punished, thus guarding the soldier against caprice and injustice."

"My report of last year called attention to the inequitable manner in which the Subsistence Department bought the company savings of pork, and sold vegetables to the companies to the amount credited for the pork. This evil still continues, and is made worse by the instructions of the Commissary General of Subsistence limiting the period during which shipments of vegetables may be made to a few months in the year. Nearly one-half of the pork issued by the Subsistence Department is sold back by the companies, thus showing the dislike for it as a diet in this climate, and that it is not a valuable part of the ration, but is used as a medium of exchange, to the disadvantage of the soldier. This matter results in almost depriving the soldier of vegetables, and seems to me so unjust that I recommend it be made a subject of special investigation."

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

WEST POINT.

DECEMBER 2, 1885.

The delightful cadet german, so longed and hoped for, now to many a memory dear, was danced in the Mess Hall on Thanksgiving Eve. It commenced at 9 o'clock and at 12.30 a tap of the drum silenced an entrancing waltz, a ripple of sighs, and in five minutes there was indeed remaining but the deserted banquet hall.

Eighty-six couples danced led by Cadet Pershing with Miss Dora Tully and Cadet Rees with Miss Bullens. The favor table was in charge of Mrs. Merritt. The favors, consisting of the prettiest and most unique articles in genuine Japanese workmanship, were much admired and prized by the fair ones favored. The "Beau and Belle" favor, chosen by lot, papers not to be opened till signal, proved the climax of the German, the charming event of the evening. This lovely mystery; won by Miss Wells, a guest of Mrs. Ellis, was in the form of a large and exquisite sachet pouch, in delicate blue satin with cascades of white lace and creamy roses. It was the happy thought and gift of Mrs. Merritt. The young lady and her partner Cadet Dade, who drew the gentleman's prize, then danced the polka together making the tour of the room amidst an enthusiastic clapping of hands.

An excellent forethought for the occasion proved the printed plan of Mess Hall, and arrangement of seats, with the names of all the ladies and cadets dancing the german and also an explanation of figures. This diagram greatly assisted the dancers in finding the friends they wished to favor—learning names of the ladies and cadets present.

The "saber figure" was something new and pretty. The sabres were those worn by the cadets in the riding hall. After the usual formations of draw sabre, present sabre, etc., the cadets formed two lines, facing with crossed sabres, forming an arch, under which the ladies marched—at the same moment, in making a fencing movement, the sound of the steel harmonized charmingly with the music of the band. We noticed many handsome costumes. Among them, continuously appeared the beautiful

white of the debutante, with its accompaniment of lace and flowers.

The names of the ladies and their cadet partners were:

Miss Bullen	Mr. Rees	Miss Tulley	Mr. Pershing
Mrs. Bruff	Mr. Rees	Miss Hinchman	Mr. Winn
Miss Jones	Mr. McMahon	Miss Wither-	Mr. Jenkins
Miss Kimball	E. C. Young	spoon	
Miss Wetmore	Mr. Riché	Miss Seamans	Mr. Bruce
Miss Huse, S.	Mr. Hayden	Miss Anthon	Mr. Gregg
Miss Tulley, A.	Mr. Shattuck	Miss Bouvier	S. Mott
Miss Fitzg'	Mr. Lyman	Miss Miller	Mr. Dwyer
Miss Irwin	G. B. Davis	Miss Woodcock	Mr. Barnum
Miss Andrews	Mr. Fulton	Miss Groun	Mr. Durfee
Miss McGregor	Mr. Gerhardt	Miss Bourne	Mr. Williams
Mrs. Gordon	Mr. Robinson	Miss King, A.	Mr. Tripp
Miss Vanwyck	W. G. Elliot	Miss King, C.	Mr. Meyler
Miss Young	Mr. Smith	Miss Bourne	Mr. Hay
Miss Andrews	Mr. Towers	Miss Augur	S. H. Elliott
Mrs. Murray	Mr. Wheeler	Miss Morse	Mr. Holley
Miss Vanwyck	Mr. Carter	Miss White	C. B. Baker
Mrs. Reed	Mr. L'Hebrant	Miss Hamilton	Mr. Drullen
Mrs. Ellis	R. P. Davis	ton, G.	
Miss Huse, D.	Mr. Landers	Miss Marshall	Mr. Camp
Miss Lucas	Mr. Dade	Miss Wilson	E. M. Evans
Miss De Zing	Mr. Andrews	Miss Wells	Mr. Palmer
Miss Maxwell	Mr. Lucas	Miss Wells	C. L. Foster
Miss Jacobs	Mr. Duncanson	Cauley	
Miss McGregor	Mr. Smoke	Mrs. Foltz	Mr. Harman
Miss Buchanan	Mr. Darrow	Miss Gorham	Mr. Maxwell
Miss Downing	Mr. Schumm	Miss Frost	Mr. Johnson
Mrs. Beach	Mr. Croxton	Miss Cox	Mr. Butler
Miss Anthon	Mr. Paxton	Miss Ogden	Mr. Donaldson
Miss Inman	Mr. Godfrey	Miss Walker	Mr. Powell
Miss Craney	Mr. Thayer	Miss Bourne	L. Mr. Proctor
Miss Fields	A. Mr. Straub	Miss Lowry	J. S. Winn
Miss Hamilton	Mr. Gibson	Miss Benedict	Mr. Menoher
ton, M.		Miss Mann	Mr. Ballou
Miss Havens	Mr. Stevens	Miss Curtis	E. M. Lewis
Miss Webb	Mr. Bean	Miss Mc-	F. W. Harris
Miss Lowrie	Mr. Reher	Miss Lee	Mr. Penn
Miss Hamilton	T. W. Hall	Miss Buel	Mr. Byron
Miss Berard	Mr. Nolan	Miss Seamans	Mr. Russell
Miss Pritchard	Mr. Gray	Miss DeLaus-	Mr. Patrick
Miss Wood-	Mr. Downing	saun	H. Hall
cock, P.		Miss Fields	Mr. French
		Miss Kilbo'rne	Mr. Hardeman

The weather was cold and stormy, but in the hall one forgot all about the dark and unpleasantness outside. Here was only warmth, lights, music and bright eyes.

Maj. Spurgin had thoughtfully ordered a substantial lunch to be served during the entire evening in one of the adjoining dining-rooms of the hall, a most acceptable arrangement which every one enjoyed.

On Thanksgiving Day the cadets sat down to a bounteous spread table. Every effort was made to give it an atmosphere of the festival. Snowy damask, glittering china and glass, and the pretty menu cards resting beside each plate, designed and printed at the office on the post, made a pleasing feature, but the dearest of all, to the cadet heart, was yet to come, the feast of soup, chicken a la Reine, relishes of all description, roast turkey, stuffed; giblet sauce, cranberry sauce, baked, mashed potatoes, French peas, dessert of mince pies (home-made), candies, nuts, assorted; cheese and coffee.

The cavalry detachment gave a fine dinner with a bill of fare of turkey, mashed potatoes, boiled onions, celery, with a dessert of apples, oranges, assorted nuts, candies, coffee, etc.; for supper they had oyster soup. In fact all of the detachments had deliciously prepared dinners.

Thanksgiving evening we had a concert in the Library. Among the pieces rendered the "Army Chaplain," more familiarly known under the name of the "Black Hussar" was much enjoyed.

Capt. William J. Daves, U. S. A., retired, Capt. Geo. S. Anderson, 6th Cav., Lieut. Robert G. Ruth-erford, U. S. A., retired, and Col. Jamison, of the British Army, visited here this week.

At 10 A. M. on Sunday, Nov. 29, the troops of the post were paraded, and the orders announcing the death of Vice-President Hendricks read. At dawn thirteen guns were fired; 19 min. guns at noon, and a national salute of thirty-eight guns at sunset. The funeral of the Vice-President taking place on Tuesday, the officers' hop was postponed to Wednesday evening.

It will be remembered that the Marquis of Rochambeau, grandnephew of the celebrated marshal of that name, was one of the French delegation who attended the centenary celebration at Yorktown, four years ago. In some recollections of his journey, published in the *Revue Française*, he gives a description of the visit of the delegation to the Academy at West Point. After describing the situation and approaches to the Academy, he says:

General and Madame Howard received us in their charming chalet, and, after the preliminary greetings, we set out to attend the review. This review displayed a military training on the part of the students of West Point which is in no respect inferior to that of the best schools in Europe. After the parade, they broke ranks and we congratulated the young men and their officers upon their fine bearing. Nothing could be more convenient and well-arranged than the little bedrooms of the cadets, each of which is shared by two pupils. Each room has two alcoves completely separated by a partition. Each little room has a marble piece, a bureau, a rocking chair, a lamp with a lace shade, books, photographs and worsted work. One would think oneself in the room of a son at home, arranged by his mother and sister and furnished with the thousand little souvenirs which bear evidence of the presence of a woman's hand. The halls are generally small but perfectly well kept.

There are 312 cadets divided into eight classes. After their first examination, the newly arrived cadets are assigned to classes according to their grading. The examinations are very severe; after each of them, the cadets who are found deficient in conduct or studies are dismissed from the school with special exceptions determined by the Academic Board (conseil supérieur). In general, these eliminations are numerous in the lower classes but become rarer in the higher classes. The cadets who successfully pass the final examination receive a diploma and may be nominated second lieutenants. Formerly the five or six premiers were appointed to the Corps of Engineers, the Topographical Engineers, or the Ordnance Corps. Lately the two Corps of Engineers have been filled and the officers of the Ordnance Corps are henceforth chosen among the second lieutenants of the Army after a new examination. The order of the other arms is thus established: 1st, the Artillery; 2d, the Cavalry; 3d, the Infantry. The cadets are distributed in the three corps according to vacancies and in the order indicated by their graduating rank.

This is interesting if not strictly accurate.

ADMINISTERING MARTIAL LAW.

CAPT. J. G. BALLANCE, acting Judge Advocate, U. S. A., who was the Judge Advocate of the General Court, which recently tried Capt. Smith and Lieut.

Payne, at Fort Clark, Texas, for gambling, etc., seems to have received considerable annoyance since. The San Antonio Times says:

The shooting occurrence happened in a barroom, which is also the headquarters of the express company at Brackett. Capt. Ballance had business with the express company, and went into the saloon Saturday evening and asked the bar-keeper to let him see the books of the express company. The barkeeper, Charlton, to whose establishment the gambling house is attached, came quietly around in front of the bar and immediately assaulted Capt. Ballance. Capt. Hall, coming into the room at the time, attempted to interpose and was pushed out of the way by Charlton, the assailant. As Charlton had repeatedly threatened to take the life of Capt. Ballance, he thought he would be justified in killing him and pulled his pistol and fired. Charlton dropped to the floor, and instead of playing possum, flopped his arms and legs like a rooster with his head cut off and appeared to be in mortal agony, thereby escaping a second shot. Another inmate of the saloon appeared at this juncture, and Capt. Ballance walked out, and going to the Post Office, gave himself up to Mr. Gildea, the Deputy Sheriff. They went together to the Sheriff's office, where Capt. Ballance gave bond. The respectable citizens of Brackett rallied to Capt. Ballance and paid his fine and costs if any fine was imposed. The equally respectable second class citizens of Brackett and the gamblers. The gamblers are now seeking to have Capt. Ballance indicted by the federal grand jury in this city for the false imprisonment of a tramp gambler, nicknamed "Jiggerty."

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)
FORT DAVIS, TEXAS.

NOVEMBER 22, 1885.

The portion of the United States known and denominated as Presidio County, Texas, has of late been greatly agitated on account of the removal of the capital or county seat from Fort Davis to Marfa. The latter place is located on the Galveston, Harrisburg, and San Antonio Railroad, and is sure to become a place of considerable importance, provided always that water can be found in reasonable quantity. A well has been sunk a great distance, but as yet no water has been found which can be considered as permanent. Marfa is on the main wagon road between Fort Davis and Presidio del Norte, Chihuahua, and a good deal of business is already done there. Many goods are brought to this point and then placed in Mexico without having paid any duties. As a consequence of this a singular class has sprung up known as contrabandistas who are brave, vigilant, and unscrupulous, and capable at times of giving a good deal of trouble.

The Mexican soldiers are employed in helping the civil authorities, and, unlike our own, are kept as prison and jail guards, thereby doing away with any other police. In Paso del Norte there is a part of the 11th Regiment of Cavalry excellently armed with sabres and carbines, who are the sole guardians of the jail in which all prisoners are confined. Their uniform is a good deal like our own, with the exception that they have stiff leather hats and red pom-poms, and when the weather is warm, trousers and blouses of white cotton. They are soldierly enough in appearance and would make a good fight if properly commanded.

General Stanley, who looks after the interests of all of the posts and troops in his Department, was here a short time since and expressed himself as satisfied with the condition of things here and hereabout. Several improvements have been made, and others are required, but like all other military posts much will then remain to be done, as houses commence deteriorating the moment they are finished. The additions to the quarters are progressing satisfactorily, a new stable for a troop of cavalry has been built, new fences put up around the officers' quarters, and a new forage house is fairly under way.

Scouting parties are kept out in the direction of the Rio Grande, and occasionally some hostile bands of savages are reported as depredating near the settlements in Mexico, but of late no Indians have been seen within the confines of Texas. The State troops do a great deal towards preserving the peace on the border, and arrest and bring to justice many offenders. They are generally a good class of men who have interests in other portions of Texas and are willing to serve for a time as guardians of the peace, though ranging now-a-days is a rather tame business in comparison with what it was thirty or forty years ago, when Jack Hays, Ben. McCulloch, and Mike Chevalle made it warm for the redskins. Col. Ford at a later day was a most successful Indian fighter, and several officers of the Regular Army won distinction, among whom may be mentioned Col. Brackett, of the 3d Cav., Fitzhugh Lee, the brand new Governor of Virginia, and General Hazen, of the Signal Corps.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

NOVEMBER 26, 1885.

"DENGUE" is playing sad havoc here. Col. Lee, Maj. Cushing and a number of others have had it. At one time six clerks of Gen. Ruggles's office were down with it.

Col. Gibson and Maj. Muhlenberg returned from pay trips on Friday. The buildings on the new post site are going up rapidly, as also the new hospital. Rain has come at which all are pleased, as we were getting very hard up for water. Every one here is sorry to lose Surg. Jos. R. Smith and his estimable family, and wish them a pleasant sojourn in New York, the doctor's next post of duty.

Surg. Vollum, our new Medical Director, is expected soon, and so are Lieut. Burns, A. D. C., and family.

Gen. Stanley and officers have raised quite a nice little sum for the sufferers from the disastrous fire at Galveston.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)
COLUMBUS BARRACKS, O.

NOVEMBER 28, 1885.

TWENTY-SIX recruits left this depot on Nov. 23 for assignment to the 2d Infantry, 1st Lieut. R. H. Patterson, A. A. General, in command. Capt. S. F. Jocelyn, 21st Inf., conducted four military convicts to the Leavenworth Prison Nov. 17. Sergt. Tremaine, Co. A of Instruction, conducted one deserter from the G. M. S. to Jefferson Barracks, and turned him over to the commanding officer of that depot. Lieut. Barbour, 7th Inf., is on tempo-

rary duty here, waiting to conduct recruits to the Department of the Platte.

Lieut. J. M. Burns, 17th Inf., was visiting friends at this depot a few days ago. The non-commissioned officers gave a grand ball and supper on Thanksgiving evening, which proved to be a grand success, and reflected great credit on all who were interested.

The officers gave a grand ball and supper on Nov. 26, at which there was present about seventy invited guests, the elite of the city.

The Barracks Band has gone to Indianapolis, Ind., 1st Lieut. A. Ogilvie in command. Col. R. H. Offley also goes to Indianapolis to be present at the funeral of the Vice-President.

J. S.

DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

MAJOR-GENERAL SCHOFIELD presents a very interesting report this year, some of the principal points of which were referred to in the report of the Lieutenant-General, published in the JOURNAL of Nov. 21, and the concluding remarks as to the need of military legislation are there quoted in full. General Schofield reviews the operations of the year in keeping our Indians out of the British possessions, suppressing the Oklahoma invaders, quelling the threatened outbreaks among the Cheyennes, Utes, and the Mescalero Apaches. He states that orders have been given for the purchase of 120 pack mules for his Division, and shows the indispensable necessity of having a well-organized and equipped pack train to accompany cavalry operating against mounted Indians. "If the Cheyenne outbreak, so seriously threatened, had actually occurred, or any of the more powerful tribes further north had gone to war, not a single battalion of cavalry sent in pursuit could have been furnished with the necessary transportation for their supplies. The troops are in an excellent state of discipline and have acquired almost marvellous skill in the use of their weapons, but their efficiency is seriously impaired by the meagre provisions made for field operations."

General Schofield reports that a substantial beginning has been made in the improvement of Fort Riley as a central station for the cavalry, and shows the necessity of having such a post for the training and recuperation of cavalry horses and the instruction of recruits. The limitation of the number of cavalry horses to each regiment places our cavalry at a great disadvantage in contests with the Indians, who have several horses to each man. In view of the recognized importance of thorough instruction in field artillery, it is proposed to concentrate several light batteries at some suitable point as soon as quarters can be provided, and it is suggested that an appropriation be asked from Congress for this purpose. General Schofield recommends a reduction of the term of first enlistment to three years, and of reenlistment to one year. He presents a strong argument for the increase of the Army to 50,000 men, and gives a striking picture of the danger the country is subjected to from the inadequate provision for dealing with Indian outbreaks, which are still possible, and which would be vastly more destructive than ever before, because of the increase of population in the vicinity of Indian reservations. Our troops are now stationed with reference to those reservations, the railroads, and the growing settlements needing protection, but the total infantry force for this purpose is about 8,000 men, or less than one-third of the Indian boys in their vicinity. "Hence it is manifest that the dismounted force is barely sufficient to guard the military posts, Indian agencies, railroads, and other property of great value against destruction by hostile Indians, leaving no foot troops available for other service either in the Indian country or elsewhere. The five regiments of cavalry available for immediate service against hostile Indians in this Division, number about four thousand men, or less than one-sixth the number of Indian warriors."

Whatever progress has been made in the civilization of the Indians, their savage nature has not yet been greatly changed, and their love of war is not yet greatly diminished, while the temptations to engage in hostilities and the opportunities to do injury have been vastly increased by the increase of wealth available for plunder. Gen. S. says.

The great majority of the large frontier population are strangers to the earlier history of the Indian country. They have settled there since the Indians were located upon reservations. Relying upon Government protection they are apparently unconscious of any danger, while in simple truth they are liable at any moment to experience all the horrors of savage warfare. While the country is struggling under a great load of unemployed capital and labor, we are neglecting the ordinary prudential measures dictated by reason and experience, which teach that some part of this surplus of capital and labor should be employed to protect the accumulated wealth of the country, and the lives of the people, from destruction by domestic or foreign foes.

Nothing short of the immediate presence of a superior force can be relied upon to restrain the Indians from outbreak, until they have advanced far beyond their present stage of civilization. Of course troops could soon be concentrated to subdue any rebellious tribe. But the damage which might be done, even in the time required for this purpose, would be enormous, as compared with anything in our past experience of Indian wars. The number of Indians in this Division, as reported by the Interior Department, is about 175,000. Of these about 53,000 are rated as peaceable, the remaining 122,000 being more or less uncivilized and warlike. Their warriors number at least 25,000—equal to the entire strength of the U. S. Army, or two-thirds more than the whole number of troops serving in this Division. I beg leave to submit that, in a country of fifty millions of people, fifty thousand men would be a small army to be maintained with sole reference to possible foreign wars. But when the country has constant daily use for nine-tenths of that force, to protect its people and their property against destruction by savage tribes in their midst, it is extremely unwise to limit the Army to its present strength. As well might the great cities of the country limit their police force to one-half that which experience has shown to be necessary for daily service, with no reserve for great emergencies.

He recommends the sale of the lands of the Indians and the investment of the money for their benefit, putting the savage Indians under exclusive Military control, and in the presence of a superior Military force; the enlistment of Indian warriors, to be stationed, with a proper proportion of white troops, in the immediate presence of tribes under Military control. He says:

By the employment of a number of warriors of any tribe in the Army, the tribe is led to regard itself as the friend and ally of the whites. The Indian no longer indulges in thoughts of war against the whites, but rather of assisting the whites against any other tribe or people who may provoke hostilities. Thus the tribe soon becomes, in sympathy and interest, a part of the American people. The most im-

portant measure toward civilizing the Indians is to eradicate from their minds all thought of hostile relations toward their civilized neighbors.

The natural instincts of the Indian makes, he thinks, this plan entirely feasible. It has been shown to be practically impossible to disarm civilized Indians, and if they are to be disarmed they must be made prisoners and kept under guard, as well for their protection as for their control.

COURT-MARTIAL CASES.

In the case of a soldier recently tried at Fort Riley, Kansas, the reviewing authority, Gen. N. A. Miles, says: "The proceedings are disapproved. The record, after showing that the prisoner had an opportunity of challenge and that a member desired to be excused, proceeds to set forth the charges and specifications without any note of action upon the member's request, or any statement that the court and judge advocate were sworn. The record also fails to record any findings. Whether the court was not sworn, or whether the error is merely one of a failure on the part of the judge advocate to make a correct record, such negligence calls for severe animadversion. It must be remembered that Courts-martial, as well as their judge advocates, are responsible for their records, and should see to their accuracy. The prisoner will be restored to duty."

In the case of Private Robert McManus, Co. K, 9th Inf., recently tried at Fort Keogh for desertion, the reviewing authority, Gen. A. H. Terry, says: "The proceedings are approved. The findings and sentence are disapproved, for the reason that, in the judgment of the department commander, it nowhere appears in the record that it was ever the intention of the prisoner to desert the Service in which he had made a most excellent record. With a credit of \$145 deposited with the paymaster, and \$41 clothing money, and a private claim of \$64 available the very day of his absconding himself; from his leaving behind all personal property and papers of value, his previous good character, and the fact of his surrendering himself, it is evident that a finding of absence without leave is all that the proof in the case demanded. For this, the confinement he has already undergone may be accepted as a sufficient punishment."

In the case of a soldier recently tried at the Presidio of San Francisco for drunkenness upon guard, etc., the reviewing authority, Major General Pope, says: "Taking into consideration the statement of the prisoner that he was drunk when he mounted guard, it seems that the court erred in not calling for testimony in regard to the condition of the prisoner at guard mounting in spite of his general plea of guilty to both charges and specifications. While the wording of the Article of War makes the 'being found drunk' upon guard constitute the gravamen of the offence, yet it is evident that it would be a graver degree of the same offence for a man, after being duly mounted as a member of a guard, and having the serious responsibilities of a sentinel devolved upon him, to become drunk, than if he were so through having been mounted in that condition, and if he were so mounted it might be considered in extenuation of his offence. It is difficult to believe that a man, who, at 5 o'clock, A. M., had to be 'fetched home' by two comrades, would at about 8.30 o'clock A. M. (the guard mounting), have been sober enough to have passed inspection, if the officer mounting the guard and the non-commissioned officer presenting the detail had exercised due care and diligence in inspecting it, and if he had been turned off guard then, as he should have been if in the condition alleged by him in his statement, it would have been impossible for the prisoner to have committed the violation of the 38th Article of which he has been found guilty. On several occasions of late, in courts held in this Department, a tendency towards the reprehensible practice of hurrying through cases has been noticed, and evidence which it was perfectly practicable and easy to obtain, has been omitted for apparently no other reason than to enable the court to adjourn more speedily. It is to be hoped that this will not occur in future (G. O. M. O. 111, Nov. 13, D. California).

ARTILLERY SCHOOL, FORT MONROE.

In G. O. Z. of Nov. 28, Gen. J. C. Tidball, U. S. A., commandant, directs that exercises for December shall consist exclusively of drill in the infantry tactics. From the 1st to the 20th batteries will be exercised under the direction of their respective captains, chiefly with the view of improving the "set up" and soldierly bearing of the men and their execution of the manual. The remainder of the month will be devoted to battalion exercises under Major Pennington, 4th Artillery, superintendent of this branch.

In G. O. 26, of Nov. 27, he announces the hours during December for sounding the daily trumpet signals.

AN ARIZONA REMEDY.

The Tucson Star in a recent article on the "Murderous Apache" said: "The Government heretofore has protected and fed the Apaches, but has not so much as even protected the whites from the Apaches." * * * "The Indians have broken out repeatedly. Let the whites break out once again and teach the Apaches in the Apache's home on the San Carlos Reservation that the whites can kill and slay as well as the Apaches. Let the whites inflict death upon the Apache in his home under the very eyes of the Government officials, just as the Apache has inflicted death and destruction upon the whites, in full view of the Government." * * * "The whites have waited in vain for Government protection. Now let them assemble and arm themselves and teach the Apaches that two can play at the game of extermination. When this is done, and not until it is done effectually, will the Apache be properly and effectually disposed of in Arizona. The Apaches have broken out often. Let the whites break out once."

Secretary Lamar having called the attention of the Governor of Arizona to the article the latter replied: "The article was promptly recognized by me as inflammatory in character, and immediately upon its publication I took action to neutralize its bad effect. The general press of the Territory now condemns the article and sustains the position I take,

viz.: that the strong arm of the Federal Government will insure the people of Arizona protection of life and property from hostile Indians' depredations. While these people have suffered greatly from Apache outrages, yet, being law abiding, they rely confidently upon this Administration to right their wrongs. Quiet and good order will be preserved throughout the Territory."

THE NAVY.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

N. Atlantic Station—Act. R.—Adml. J. E. Jouett.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Charles McGregor. At Norfolk, Va. To be ready about Jan. 1.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Colby M. Chester. Arrived at Aspinwall, Nov. 29. Will convey the new Minister to Columbia from Aspinwall to Savannah.

SWATARA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. E. T. Woodward. At Norfolk.

TENNESSEE, 1st rate, 22 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. Robert Boyd. Left St. Thomas for Laguayra Nov. 30. All well.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Francis M. Green. At Norfolk, Va.

S. Atlantic Station—Rear-Adml. Earl English.

Mails should be addressed to care of U. S. Consul, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, unless otherwise noted, or care of B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London.

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns, Capt. Edward E. Potter. Flagship of the South Atlantic Station. Arrived at Montevideo Oct. 7. Will be sent to the South East Coast of Africa.

NIPISIC, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. William S. Dana. At Rio de Janeiro Sept. 23. To sail about Oct. 1 for Montevideo and arrive about 31st, touching at Ilha Grande, Santos and St. Catharines.

European Station—R.—Adml. Sam. R. Franklin.

Mails should be addressed to care of B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London, England, unless otherwise noted.

PENSACOLA, 2d rate, 16 guns, Captain George Dewey. Arrived at Gibraltar, Nov. 13, as per cable despatch from London.

KEARSARGE, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Charles D. Sigbee. Reported by cable from London to have passed Hurst Castle, Nov. 21, on her way to Lisbon.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Nicoll Ludlow. At Constantinople, Sept. 11, 1885. Commander Geo. W. Hayward has been ordered to command this vessel, and left New York, Nov. 28, per S. S. Oregon.

Pacific Station—Rear-Adm. E. Y. McCauley.

The Post-office address of the vessels of the Pacific Station is care of U. S. Consul at Panama, unless otherwise noted. Letters directed to Callao are delayed in the Post-office.

ADAMS, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Louis Kempff. Sailed from San Francisco for Panama Dec. 2.

HARTFORD, 2d rate, 16 guns (f. s. p. s.), Captain E. P. Lull commanding. At Panama, Nov. 13. To leave Nov. 14 for Payta and Callao.

IROQUOIS, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Yates Stirling. At Callao Oct. 23.

MONONGAHELA, 2d rate, 9 guns, Lieut. Comdr. George B. Livingston in command. Used as a store-ship at Coquimbo, Chili.

MOHICAN, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Benjamin F. Day. Arrived at Panama Nov. 12, and as soon as coaled would proceed to Corinto. After leaving the Central American Coast will make a search for the rock reported by the Master of the Sarah S. Ridgway.

PINTA, 4th rate, screw, 2 guns, Lieut. Comdr. Henry E. Nichols. Address care of Navy Pay Agent, San Francisco, Cal. At Juneau, Alaska, Oct. 14. Was to leave about October 20 for Sitka.

SHENANDOAH, 2d rate, 9 guns, Captain Chas. S. Norton. At Callao, Nov. 6, going to Coquimbo.

Atlantic Station—Act. Rear-Admiral J. L. Davis.

Vessel with (+), address, Mail, to care U. S. Consul, Yokohama, Japan.

ALEUT, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. J. Barclay. Sailed from Nagasaki, Oct. 10, for Chefoo, but on account of adverse winds and short coal, put into Shanghai.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Albert S. Barker. En route to New York, via Australia, New Zealand and Cape Horn. At Wellington, New Zealand, Oct. 24 (per cable). Expected at New York some time in February, 1886.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Purnell F. Harrington. Reported by cable from London, Nov. 19, 1885, to have passed St. Helena Oct. 31. Expected to arrive at New York about Dec. 10.

Captain J. G. Walker, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, recently received a personal letter from Commander Harrington, commanding the Juniata, dated Capetown, Africa, Oct. 22, in which he said he would sail that day for New York, where he expected to arrive Dec. 5, unless he stopped at the Barbadoes. From this it is expected that the Juniata will reach New York sometime during the coming week at the latest.

MARION, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Merrill Miller commanding. At Chemulpo, Corea, Sept. 19.

MONOCACY, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Francis J. Higginson. At Hong Kong, Sept. 26.

OMAHA, 2d rate, 12 guns, Captain Thos. O. Selfridge, commanding. Reported by cable at Colombo, Isle of Ceylon, Nov. 18, 1885.

OSSIPEE, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. John F. McGlensy. At Yokohama, Oct. 21.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers, Lieut.-Commander T. Nelson. At Shanghai, China, Sept. 30.

TRENTON, 3d rate, 10 guns, f. s. a. s., Capt. Robert L. Phythian. At Chefoo, China, Oct. 30.

Apprentice Training Squadron.

JAMESTOWN, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Commander Charles V. Gridley. At Norfolk, Va. To sail about Jan. 1, 1886, for the West Indies.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 24 guns, Capt. Allen V. Reed. Gunner ship. In her winter quarters alongside of Dock foot of West 27th Street, North River. Entrance from W. 26th Street. P. O. address, Station E, New York.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails, flagship of training squadron, Captain Arthur R. Yates. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Comdr. S. W. Terry, commanding. At Norfolk, Va. To sail about Jan. 1, 1886, for the West Indies.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 12 guns, Comdr. William H. Whiting. At Norfolk, Va. To sail about Jan. 1, 1886, for the West Indies.

On Special Service.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Lieut. Wm. H. Emory, Jr., in command. At Newport.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns, Comdr. John J. Read. At Erie, Pa.

POWHEATAN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Captain Lester A. Beardslee. At Key West, Fla., Dec. 5.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. E. Clark. Left Mare Island, Cal., Nov. 19, for San Diego and Central American Coast.

ST. MARY'S, sails, 8 guns, Comdr. Edwin M. Shepard. N. Y. Schoolship. In her winter quarters at foot of 31st Street, East River.

BROOKLYN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Capt. E. O. Matthews. At Newport, R. I., Dec. 2, 1885. Expected to return to New York daily, where final inspection will be made.

Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.

FRANKLIN, 1st rate, 20 guns, Capt. Henry Wilson. Receiving ship. At Norfolk, Va.

INDEPENDENCE, 3d rate, sails, 6 guns, Commander Frederick Rodgers. Receiving ship. At Mare Island, Cal.

RESCUE, 4th rate, Mate Samuel F. Lomax. Used as a fire tug. Washington, D. C.

SPEEDWELL, 4th rate, Mate Harrold Neilson. At Norfolk, Va.

ST. LOUIS, 3d rate, sails, Captain R. L. Law. Receiving ship. League Island, Pa.

WABASH, 1st rate, 26 guns, Captain Joseph N. Miller. Receiving ship, Boston, Mass.

VERMONT, 2d rate, 7 guns, Captain Augustus P. Cooke. Receiving ship. At New York.

DALE, 8 guns, Commander Silas Casey. Receiving ship. At Washington, D. C.

PHLOX, Naval Academy Tug. Mate B. G. Perry in command. At Annapolis, Md.

MAYFLOWER, Mate Kuhl, commanding. At Norfolk.

The iron-clads *Ajax*, *Catekill*, *Lehigh*, *Mahopac*, *Manhattan* and *Wyandotte*, are laid up at City Point, Va., in command of Comdr. D. W. Mullian.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The effects of the American Ship Building Company, of which the late Commander Gorringe was president, were to be sold at auction on Monday, Nov. 30, and the checkered career of that concern will then probably be brought to a close.

It is understood that the Secretary of the Navy deems another dock trial of the *Puritan* unnecessary under the terms of the contract, and that he has directed the acceptance of the work upon her.

The *Louisiana* has beaten her own record by two hours, having run from New York to New Orleans, 1,800 miles, in 126 hours and 50 minutes; an average of 14.2 miles an hour.

A DESPATCH from Norfolk, Va., Nov. 25, says: "The shaft of the *Swatara*, at the Navy-yard, was found to be broken to-day, and a new one will be put in, detaining the ship here until after New Year's. All her machinery is being overhauled. Orders were received to-day to have the steamer *Yantic* ready for sea by Dec. 16, and the machinists will have to work extra time. Considerable defective timber will have to be left in her which the survey ordered to be taken out.

It is expected that the *Tallapoosa* will be ready for sea in about a month. She will then join the South Atlantic Station, and will be commanded by Commander Wm. Whitehead.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from on board the U. S. S. *Lancaster*, under date of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sept. 16, 1885, in regard to boat races, says: "The Brazilians recently gave an international boat race, which the crew of the *Lancaster* was invited to join. We accepted the invitation, and entered our barge. When our boys saw the barge they had to pull against their hearts dropped down into their boots, and there was cause for it, for the Brazilians had a beautiful barge, 40 ft. long and 9½ ft. beam, scarcely drawing four inches of water, and a crew picked from 1,400 men. Nevertheless our boys said they would do their best to win. The race was three miles straight away. The Brazilians had fourteen men and an officer in their boat, and we had in our boat sixteen men and an officer. From the start to the finish our boat walked away from the Brazilians in fine shape, beating them about a quarter of a mile, therefore winning the prize, which was a beautiful fruit-stand of silver, two feet high. The *Nipisic* entered for the cutter race, and beat all other cutters by three minutes. The gig of the British flagship *Ruby* won the gig race; and out of the international races the Brazilians won six."

NAVY GAZETTE.

Ordered.

Nov. 28.—Surgeon Hampton Anlick, to the Alliance.

Nov. 30.—Commander Theodore F. Kane, to command the training-ship New Hampshire.

Chief Engineer G. M. L. Macarty, to special duty at the Morgan Iron Works, New York.
 DEC. 1.—Ensign W. M. Constant, to the Wabash.
 DEC. 2.—Commander Henry B. Seely, to duty at the Navy-yard, League Island, Penn.
 Lieutenant Henry T. Mayo, to the Naval Observatory.
 Chaplain Wm. F. Morrison, to the training-ship New Hampshire.

Detached.

Nov. 23.—Lieutenant Wm. P. Day, from the Yantic and placed on sick leave.
 Lieutenant Geo. W. Mentz, from the Portsmouth and ordered to the Yantic.
 Surgeon Geo. F. Bradley, from the Alliance and ordered to the Naval Hospital, Phila.
 Assistant Surgeon Joseph Snafier, from the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, and ordered to the Minnesota.
 Nov. 30.—Captain A. V. Reed, from command of the training-ship Minnesota, and placed on waiting orders.
 Lieutenant Commander Frederick A. Miller, from the Naval Hospital, New York, and placed on waiting orders.
 DEC. 1.—Commander William Whitehead, from the Navy-yard, League Island, and ordered to command the Tallapoosa.
 Lieutenant Commander Geo. M. Totten, from the torpedo station and ordered to the Tallapoosa as executive.
 DEC. 5.—Lieutenant Walter S. Hughes, from the training-ship New Hampshire and ordered to the Hydrographic Office.

Retired.

Chief Engineer Theodore Zeller has been detached from duty at New York and placed on the retired list from December 1.
 Lieutenant Commander Fred. A. Miller and Carpenter Geo. E. Anderson.

To Delay Reporting.

Commander T. F. Kane will delay reporting as commanding officer of the Minnesota until Nov. 15, Captain Allen V. Reed ordered to continue in command until that date.

MARINE CORPS.

Nov. 27.—Captain Frederick H. Corrie, orders of November 20 to the Vermont, revoked.
 Nov. 28.—Captain McLane Tilton, orders to the Pensacola Navy-yard revoked.
 Captain H. C. Cochrane, detached from marine barracks at the League Island Navy-yard, and ordered to the Pensacola, Fla., Navy-yard.
 Nov. 30.—1st Lieutenant B. R. Russell, detached from the marine barracks at Washington and ordered to the barracks at League Island.
 1st Lieutenant Geo. R. Benson, detached from the marine barracks at Brooklyn, December 5, and ordered to the Vermont.
 2d Lieutenant Wm. P. Biddle, ordered to the barracks at Brooklyn, December 11.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, November 24, 1885.

G. O. 340:

Hereafter in conducting official correspondence in the Naval Service envelopes containing communications intended for officials having recognized titles will be addressed to them by title, and not to them as individuals: for instance: "The Secretary of the Navy," "The Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks," "The Commandant," "The Commanding Officer," etc., etc. All reports, letters and telegrams relating to the movements of vessels of the Navy will be addressed to the "Office of Detail."

WM. C. WHITNEY, Secretary of the Navy.

FLOATING FIELD OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

The recent report of the Adjutant-General recommends that hereafter field officers be commissioned as of the arm of service to which they belong, and not, as heretofore, as major, lieutenant-colonel, or colonel of a specified regiment, and this recommendation has received the endorsement of the Lieutenant-General.

The reason on which this recommendation is based is so insufficient that it is difficult to realize that it is put forth seriously in an important public document, and it is but fair to presume that there are other and better reasons which it is thought impolitic to make public.

The body politic is as liable to disease as the body

corporeal, and among the great diseases that afflict governments there are two, Nepotism and Favoritism, as baneful in their effects on the body politic as cholera and small-pox on the body corporeal.

The best sanitary measures are precision and precaution. To avoid danger it is best in such cases to anticipate it.

The right to assign carries with it, of necessity, the right to transfer.

Suppose, that backed by the War Dept., the recommendation of the Adjt.-General should be enacted into law by Congress. Every field officer of the line who is so fortunate as to have a friend at court and who is dissatisfied with his station will at once begin to importune the War Dept. for transfer to a regiment stationed in more favored localities. Every Senator, Congressman, Governor, or other influential politician, who has a relative or special friend, a field officer stationed at some remote or disagreeable post will begin pushing the War Dept. with all his personal and political strength to transfer his favorite to the regiment and station occupied by some officer of equal grade, but with less "influence."

No field officer can at any time be safe of his station or regiment, for the power of personal and political influence may at any time transfer him to make room for some special favorite.

Nepotism and Favoritism are natural human weaknesses. They are the virtues, family affection and friendship, "run to seed" and become vices.

Presidents, secretaries, and generals are but human after all, and every student of history knows that at every court or seat of government, the accidents of birth and money, or the fitness of friends often push the fortunes of very inferior men, while the caustic tongue of the merest hanger-on may run the prospects of the most superior.

It is not enough that the War Dept. be true and just. It must appear so to the whole world and this will not and cannot be the case if a law be passed placing the status of old and experienced officers at its mere will.

"Lead us not into temptation," the most beautiful recognition of the weakness of human nature, is the best sentiment of the purest model of prayer.

Tempt not, by the passage of such a law, the War Dept. to play fast and loose with the honor of officers who have well served their country in the time of its sorest need. Put it not in the power of the Dept. to force one old field officer to give place to another simply because the latter has most influence.

When long and faithful service, strict devotion to duty, high and honorable record, are forced to give precedence to the "son of his father," or to the underhand arts of scheming parasites, the fate of the Army is sealed.

REVENUE MARINE.

Second Lieutenant Walstein A. Failling, Nov. 30, reported for duty on the revenue cutter *Ewing*, at Baltimore, and Second Lieutenant John F. Wild, detached, left for the steamer *Dexter*, at Newport, R. I. Third Lieutenant Geo. H. Doty, detached from the *Ewing*, left for the *Hamilton*, at Philadelphia, and Third Assistant Engineer Philip Littig reported for duty on the *Ewing*. First Lieutenant George Williams has been ordered to command the harbor steamer *Guthrie*, Dec. 15, relieving First Lieutenant R. M. Clark, who will return to the *Crawford*.

THE GOUBET SUBMARINE TORPEDO BOAT.

We this week place before our readers an illustration of an improved submarine boat, which we copy from *Engineering*. It has been constructed by M. Goubet, of Paris, and is similar to that lately tried in Denmark. The first of these boats was completed in 1881, and led to an order from the Russian Government for the mechanism of three hundred boats, of which fifty were built in Paris and delivered in the commencement of 1883. The hull of the boat can be opened at the upper part to admit the entrance of the officer and man who form her crew. These two having taken their places, the hatch is covered by a dome *a*, secured by lings and bolts, a joint being made by the edges taking into a recess lined with india rubber. There are seven glazed openings in the hull, each covered by glass half an inch thick, and further protected by an external grating and internal shutter. At the stern of the hull is placed the torpedo, containing 110 lbs. of dynamite or other explosive. This is fastened by a catch joint which can be operated from the in-

terior of the boat. The torpedo is likewise attached to a conducting wire wound on a drum carried by the boat and connected to a commutator within. In the interior of the boat are placed a reservoir of compressed air *b*, which serves as a seat for the men; the propelling mechanism consisting of accumulators, dynamo, oars, the pump *c* for removing water from the reservoirs *h h'* when the boat has to rise, the air pump *d* for extracting the vitiated air, the double-acting pump *V*, which preserves the stability of the vessel by aid of the two extreme reservoirs *A A'*, and of the pendulum *A*. The reservoirs *h h'* serve to effect the immersion of the boat, and are each divided into several compartments to prevent the water in them from surging backwards and forwards. And lastly, the different levers, taps, gauges, compasses, etc.

The sailor seated at the side where the mechanism is situated, opens the cock *e* to permit the compressed air to flow into the boat. This air passes through the reservoirs *h h'* by the pipe *J*, in order to become saturated with humidity, and enters the dome by the pipe *K*. A pressure gauge *l* indicates the pressure of air in the reservoir *b*. The air pump is put in action to expel the vitiated air. The man then starts the boat at the line of flotation marked in the drawing, while the officer directs its course, forwards or backwards, or in any other direction, by reversing the motor by the lever *u*, and by directing the movable screw (to be presently explained) in various directions. When it has arrived under the hostile ship, which may be seen through the upper window of the dome *a*, the boat is manoeuvred to obtain the best position, and then the torpedo is cast off to ascend by its flotative power, and attach itself to the vessel by its impact and a ring of spikes which it carries at its upper part. This done the boat withdraws, paying out the conductor until a safe distance has been gained, say 100 to 150 yards. The circuit is then completed, and the explosion effected by electricity. When this object has been accomplished the boat ascends to the surface by expelling the water from the reservoirs *h h'*.

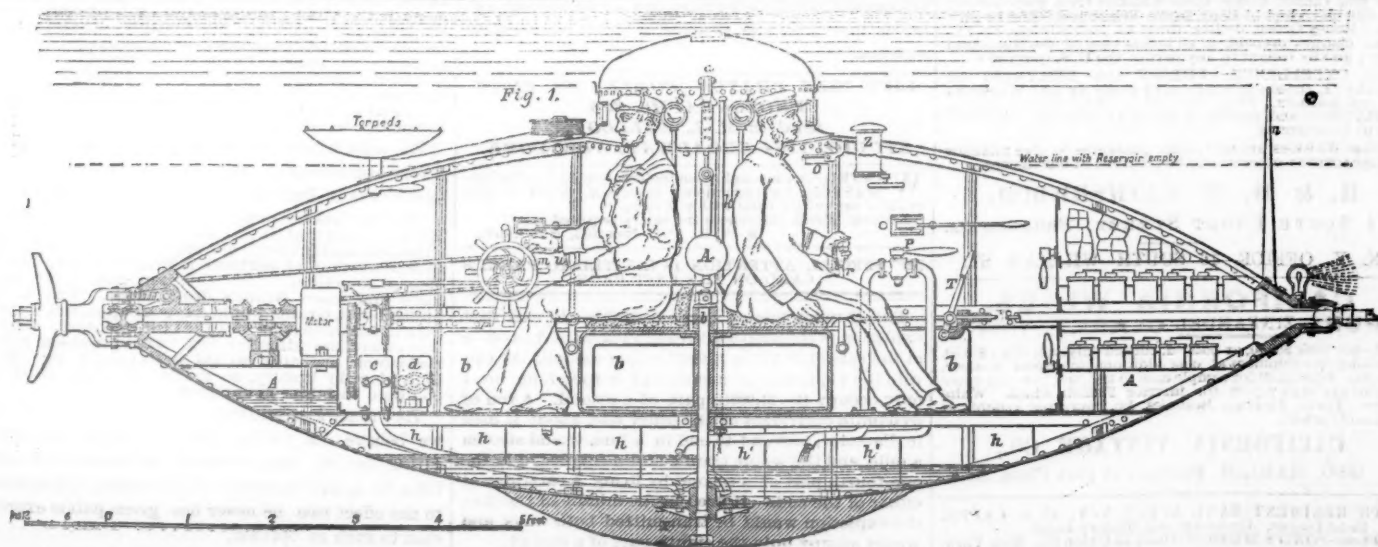
An explosive signal forms a means of communication with the surface in case any accident should occur to the craft and prevent it rising, indicating by the loudness of the noise and the color of the flame the depth to which the boat has descended. It may also carry up with it a telephone wire to form a means of communication if desired.

Another safety appliance is found in a large weight *X* fixed to the bottom of the boat, and secured by a steel screw which engages with a nut let into the body of the weight. Should an accident occur to the skin of the craft, or some necessity for a very rapid ascent to the surface present itself, the bolt is turned by a wrench until it withdraws itself from the nut, when the weight drops off and the buoyancy of the boat carries her quickly to the surface, in spite of the water in the reservoirs *h* and *h'*.

There is carried in the reservoir *b* a supply of air compressed to fifty atmospheres, sufficient to supply the two men for a space of ten hours. The carbonic acid which they will give off during that time is absorbed by 1,500 grammes of caustic potash distributed in various parts of the boat. A slight amount of free chlorine serves to destroy any exhalations which may be produced, other than carbonic acid.

The power required to drive the boat, fully immersed, at a speed of five knots, is 42 kilogrammetres, and this could be developed by a Siemens motor, working with a current obtained from accumulators.

In case the motor should break down, oars are provided, their arrangement being shown in Figs. 9 and 10. Two men are able to row the boat at the rate of three knots per hour when fully immersed. In the Russian boats the power was obtained by treadles worked by four men, as already explained.



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either of the ends. If fired in the middle of the line,
the explosion would be transmitted both ways, and
would occupy only the eighth part of a second.

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ARMYNAVY.

THE FALLACIES OF MEMORY.

To the *North American Review* for December,
Colonel FREDERICK D. GRANT contributes an article
entitled "HALLECK's injustice to GRANT." He treats
the subject fairly, his article consisting almost en-
tirely of letters and telegrams passing between the
two Generals named. It is only just, however, to
the memory of General HALLECK to say that Colonel
GRANT does not make out his case. The GRANT of
1832 was not, in the public estimation, the GRANT
of 1865, and these official documents show nothing
more than a misunderstanding between General
HALLECK and his subordinate, resulting partly from
a report which Colonel GRANT presents, with a candor
that does him credit, in this despatch from General
HALLECK to General McCLELLAN:

A rumor has just reached me that since the taking
of Fort Donelson General Grant has resumed his
former bad habits. If so, it will account for his ne-
glect of my often repeated orders. I do not deem
it advisable to arrest him at present, but have placed
General Smith in command of the expedition up the
Tennessee. I think Smith will restore order and dis-
cipline.

The misunderstanding arose after the capture of
Fort Donelson, and the first despatch from HALLECK
alluding to it is dated March 2, 1862. On the 15th
of the same month, General HALLECK telegraphed to
Adjutant-General THOMAS, recommending that
no further notice be taken of the matter and saying:

There has never been any want of military subor-
dination on the part of General Grant, and his fail-
ure to make returns of his forces has been explained
as resulting partly from the failure of colonels of
regiments to report to him on their arrival, and
partly from an interruption of telegraphic com-
munication. All these irregularities have now been
remedied.

In concluding Colonel GRANT says:

The best comment I can make on this correspond-
ence, probably, is what I have heard my father say.
It is this:

General Halleck unquestionably regarded General
C. F. Smith as a much fitter officer for the command
of all the forces in the military district than he
(Grant), and to render Smith available for such com-
mand, desired his promotion to antedate the promo-
tions of the other commanders. It is probable that
the general opinion was that Smith's long services in
the Army and distinguished deeds rendered him the
more proper person for such command. This did
not justify, however, the despatches which General
Halleck sent to Washington, or his subsequent con-
cealment of them when pretending to explain the
action of his superiors.

The same number of the *North American* contains
a very appreciative notice of General GRANT by Gen-
eral JAMES B. FRY, in the course of which he says:

The time has not come for final judgment of Grant.
He had great abilities and great opportunities.
Chance is undoubtedly an important factor in the
race of glory, and perhaps it favored Grant in the
War of Rebellion. Gen. Sherman goes so far as to
have said since Grant's death, that, "had C. F.
Smith lived, Grant would have disappeared to his-
tory after Donelson;" but that is conjecture. Grant
was one of the "singular few" who possessed quali-
ties which probably would have gained for him a
high place in history, no matter who had lived to
compete with him in our great war.

The remark attributed to General SHERMAN is,
we believe, an extract from a private communi-
cation, and we observe that a newspaper despatch
from St. Louis ascribes to the General a statement
to the effect that he never has given public expres-
sion to such an opinion.

With a fine show of impartiality, the *North American* admits to the same number an answer by General ROSECRANS to GRANT's *Century* article on Chattanooga. It is entitled "The Mistakes of Grant." It is uncompromising in spirit, referring in one place to a statement by General GRANT as "a bold untruth;" saying in another place "No true soldier could overlook or fail to appreciate the merits of a campaign which in thirty-eight days overcame such obstacles, and from the jaws of such peril snatched and held a strategic position so valuable. Why then did the author of the *Century* article fail to do so?"

General ROSECRANS charges GRANT with an undying dislike of General THOMAS, with "misstating facts to gratify dislikes of others and to glorify himself," writing an article which "abounds in inaccurate, misleading and untruthful statements." Concluding, he says: "The principles and habits of a long life with me have been against the obtrusion of personal views upon public attention; but truth and justice require that, upon historical events, especially within my cognizance, I should not in silence permit insatiable and conscienceless egotism, under the shadow of a great name, to masquerade as the muse of history."

Some years ago, an English writer, Miss COBBE, published a most interesting essay on the subject of the "Fallacies of Memory." In it she showed, by argument and illustration, that the memory is a faculty upon which no reliance can be placed. It is not merely that it occasionally fails us; it habitually misleads, and the occasions on which it may be followed with safety are the exceptions and not the rule. The military controversies, which are filling our popular magazines with so much explosive literature, seem to be an illustration of the correctness of Miss COBBE's conclusions. They have been very interesting to the general reader, and correspondingly profitable to the magazines which contain them, but we question whether they have contributed much, if anything, to the truth of history. They have unquestionably added to our knowledge of the incidents of the war, and given something of the interest and vitality of personal association to the facts, which might otherwise cease to be of value to any but the Dryasdusts. While they have accomplished this much, it is unfortunate that they should have stirred up so much bitterness of feeling, and led their authors, in some cases, to take such mistaken and uncharitable views of those with whom they differ.

We wish we might persuade those whose controversial spirit is thus excited to listen for a moment to the JOURNAL, which loves them, each and all, and would not willingly diminish the glory of a single star in our galaxy of heroes. We would suggest that, however human and mistaken they may be, none of them are liars or dealers in malicious misrepresentations; they are merely victims to the "fallacies of memory." This faculty, it should be remembered, does not record absolute facts but simply the mental impressions produced by given conditions, which vary with the subject, and assume different combinations, according to nearness or distance from the time and scene, and other circumstances. Colonel SCOTT, of the War Records Office, has a budget of curious illustrations of this. In one instance an officer asked to be allowed to file the report of a particular engagement until he was confronted with his report made at the time, which, as he had insisted, had never been prepared. In another case two colonels were asked which of them commanded on a particular occasion in the absence of the brigadier. In due course of mail an answer was received from each of them saying that he did. These are illustrations which might be multiplied indefinitely.

It has always been so. At St. Helena, NAPOLEON occupied his leisure with dictating reminiscences which did not agree in their statement of dates and circumstances with the official records made at the time, which were not at hand to ensure the necessary accuracy of statement; yet we see no reason to believe, as some have contended, that NAPOLEON intentionally misrepresented. He was simply a victim to the "fallacies of memory," as some of our later heroes have been.

NEW METHOD OF CASTING CANNON.

THE Fort Pitt Works, which was for years the principal dependence of Government for heavy guns, has so long been simply a tradition among ordnance people that when, three or four weeks ago, the Fortification Commission of the Army and Navy inspected Pittsburgh industries, it did not consider it worth while to even visit the locality of RODMAN's experimenting and CHARLES KNAPP's enterprise. The special plant for finishing the 15 and 20-inch guns has long since been broken up, and though field cannon of small calibre can still be produced of steel, the present control of the Works would probably not entertain the construction of heavy ordnance, under any other conditions than those of very generous guaranteed orders, if at all. The accompanying communication from MACKINTOSH, HEMPHILL and Co., who have succeeded to the old organization, will, however, suggest the possibility that RODMAN's theory of great guns is not yet to be set aside as behind the age. We have seen the steel out of which the company proposes to make the rough casting, and the same metal after having been annealed, and thoroughly endorse the statement of the communication as to "the remarkable change in the structure of the material." Unquestionably the position so strongly taken by our correspondents, that hammering or rolling does not improve a steel ingot, will not only provoke discussion, but positive denial. It will be noted, however, that the provision of a long sinking-head is claimed to compact the material—an effect very much akin to that from the forging or rolling process. MACKINTOSH, HEMPHILL and Co. in their theory of casting do not differ greatly from the RODMAN principle. They would make the gun-ingot either solid or with a water-cooled core, whichever should seem best.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

We propose the manufacture of a cannon of large calibre and great weight by the process of steel casting, by departing from the usual practice of casting in a sand mould, substituting a case of sheet iron roughly approximating the contour of the gun, allowance being made for the finishing; trunnions being cast with the gun. This case is enclosed vertically in a flask or iron cylinder and the space between the case and flask filled with thoroughly dried sand; this sand backing is compacted by jarring the flask with sledges, thus supporting the case in its position. The molten steel is then run into the case. So far, this is the ordinary process of "can ingot" casting, varying, however, in making the case approach the contour of the gun instead of a plain cylinder has been the practice heretofore. A very long sinking head is made on the case to feed the shrinkage of the steel, and also to compact the material by the pressure of the height of the column of molten steel. That the pressure from a long sinking head will effectually compact the material in the case, we have conclusively proved by many instances of shafts and rolls as large as 24 inches diam. the castings coming out perfectly free from blow holes, shrinkage cracks or defects of any kind. The steel ingot after becoming cold will be taken to the lathe, rough bored and turned and then put in an annealing furnace and thoroughly annealed. By thoroughly annealing such castings, a remarkable change is effected in the structure of the material; what was a coarse open grain becomes a fine silky one, equal to good hammered steel, and its toughness will be vastly increased. By this mode of manufacture the cost of a large gun will be reduced very much below that of a coiled or forged gun, and we claim it will be fully equal in strength and soundness—the former being secured by the thorough annealing, and the latter by the pressure of the sinking head while the material is in the molten condition. We think that the prevalent opinion that a steel ingot is improved by hammering or rolling is a mistaken one, and derived from the experience with wrought iron, where heavy reductions and repeated re-workings unquestionably benefit the material; but the cases of steel and wrought iron are fundamentally different. Wrought iron always contains more or less foreign matter, dirt, scale, or cinder, which would greatly injure the finished produce. These are driven out by the re-workings or reductions; but in the case of steel there are no such impurities in the molten material, and all that is required is, that the density and toughness of the mass be attained, which is completely accomplished by the high sinking head and annealing. We have repeatedly proved this by hammering pieces of unannealed steel and then annealing the mass they were taken from, and in no case have we found the hammered to be superior to the unhammered and annealed specimen. So striking has this been that we feel convinced that if the entire section of a large ingot were hammered down to one inch squares, and another ingot of exactly the same quality was thoroughly annealed and then cut to the same sized squares, the latter would prove in every respect equal to the former.

These views being somewhat contrary to the commonly received ones, will certainly be questioned, and as our experience has fully convinced us of their accuracy, we would invite the fullest investigation and criticism.

We would remark, however, that we wish the application of the foregoing, to be restricted to steel in large masses, say from ten inches square upwards.

Very respectfully,

MACKINTOSH, HEMPHILL and Co. (Limited).
PITTSBURG, NOV. 27, 1885.

MILITARY JUSTICE.

GENERAL DABNEY H. MAURY sends us an interesting article on the subject of "Military Justice," which appears elsewhere. General MAURY, who won his title in the service of the late Confederacy, cites the experience of the Confederates by way of suggestion as to what we may do to re-establish confidence in the administration of Military Justice. That there is something radically wrong in our system of Court-martial, as at present administered, is too obvious for discussion. Recent decisions of Courts-martial recall the saying that there are two things which can never be foretold, "the purposes of the Divine Providence and the finding of a petit jury." To these may well be added, the decision of a Court-martial. The decisions of some of our military courts, and notably of one composed of officers of the highest rank, have been so illogical as to produce a hopeless mental confusion in the attempt to reconcile them with common sense. We are not sure as to whether anything is to be gained by following the Confederate precedent, but it may be well to consider the subject. We chanced to have before us when General MAURY's letter was received a copy of "G. O. No. 93, Adjutant and Inspector-General's Office, Richmond, Nov. 22, 1862." It publishes various acts of the Confederate Congress, among them "No. 19—an act to organize Military Courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the Field, and to defend the Powers of said Courts." This act provides a court of three members, with the rank of colonel of cavalry, for each Army corps in the field—two to constitute a quorum—and a Judge Advocate with the rank of captain of cavalry. To each court was granted the right to appoint a Provost Marshal with the rank of captain of cavalry, and a clerk to record the proceedings and evidence. These Military Courts were given jurisdiction over all officers committed by any one in the Army, under the grade of colonel, whether civil or military, and it was provided that:

For offences cognizable by Courts-martial, the court shall, on conviction, inflict the penalty prescribed by the Rules and Articles of War, and in the manner and mode therein mentioned; and for offences not punishable by the Rules and Articles of War, but punishable by the laws of the Confederate States, said court shall inflict the penalties prescribed by the laws of the Confederate States; and for offences against which penalties are not prescribed by the Rules and Articles of War, nor by the laws of the Confederate States, but for which penalties are prescribed by the laws of a State, said court shall inflict the punishment prescribed by the laws of the State in which the offence was committed; provided, that in cases in which, by the laws of the Confederate States or the State, the punishment is by fine or by imprisonment, or by both, the court may, in its discretion, inflict any other punishment less than death; and for the offences defined as murder, manslaughter, arson, rape, robbery and larceny, by the common law, when committed beyond the territorial limits of the Confederate States, the punishment shall be in the discretion of the court. That when an officer under the grade of brigadier general, or private, shall be put under arrest for any offence cognizable by the court herein provided for, notice of his arrest and of the offence with which he shall be charged, shall be given to the Judge Advocate by the officer ordering said arrest, and he shall be entitled to as speedy a trial as the business before said court will allow.

Sec. 5. Said courts shall attend the Army, shall have appropriate quarters within the lines of the Army, shall be always open for the transaction of business, and the final decisions and sentences of said courts in convictions shall be subject to review, mitigation and suspension, as now provided by the Rules and Articles of War in cases of Courts-martial.

It was further provided that:

Sec. 3. Each court shall have power to adopt rules for conducting business and for the trial of causes, and to enforce the rules adopted, and to punish contempt, and to regulate the taking of evidence, and to secure the attendance of witnesses, and to enforce and execute its orders, sentences, and judgments, as in cases of Courts-martial.

Recent decisions at Washington would indicate that some specific enactment of this kind is required to give our Courts martial proper authority. The appearance of a civilian witness refusing to testify, and, when the court undertakes to compel him, twirling his fingers from the end of his nose at the venerable members—metaphorically, if not literally—may be entertaining to the spectators, but it is not conducive to the dignity of the court, nor to the proper administration of justice.

THE Congressional Committee on Heavy Ordnance have almost concluded their investigations and will lay the result of their work before the House shortly after Congress convenes. They will report that heavy guns of the greatest power can be made in this country, and will recommend that an appropriation be made, and that authority be given to make contracts with manufacturers who are now prepared to commence the work. They will report also that the best armor plate can be made at the same works. The conditions under which several manufacturers are willing to do the work are that they be given a continuous contract at a price equal

to what it could be done for in Europe, plus the difference in the rate of wages or plus the protective tariff.

MESSRS. G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS publish for the Military Service Institution the essay which obtained the first prize of the Institution. It is by Captain GEORGE F. PRICE, U. S. A., 5th Cavalry. In presenting his subject, which is, "the necessity for closer relations between the Army and the people," Captain PRICE first considers the present relations between the two, as shown in that subordination of the military to the civil authority which justifies the confidence of the people. Next follows the consideration of the necessity for a closer personal relation and freer intercourse between the Army and the people. If this people, says Captain PRICE, expect to escape bitter humiliation in the event of a foreign war, they must be willing to maintain an army of sufficient numbers to be at least able to hold an enemy in check until the militia and volunteers can be brought into the field.

As the best means of bringing the Army and the people into closer relations Captain PRICE recommends official and personal relations with the militia, who occupy the middle ground, separating the Army from the people. He suggests the organization of a twelve company regiment of infantry, 600 strong for each Congressional District and Territory, to be followed by discipline and instruction. Companies, battalions, and regiments of the Army should be assigned as they can be spared, to temporary station with the militia in their summer encampments. From association with the regulars, who are habitually instructed in the open country, the militia would speedily learn all correct military methods, and upon returning to their homes would exhibit in their collective state practical proofs of the value of the Army concerning which so little is now known. Captain PRICE further recommends the localization of the regular regiments, to give them a hold upon local sympathies similar to that obtained by volunteer regiments during the War of the Rebellion; reduction of first enlistments to three years, and of reenlistments to two years; increase of the pay of non-commissioned officers, and the disposition of the troops in large garrisons near important railway centres. Finally, the encouragement of the Military Academy, the School of Application for the line of the Army, and the establishment of schools of instruction and practice for the engineers and ordnance, with a continuation of the policy detailing Army officers for military instruction at colleges. The soundness of these conclusions is certainly not to be questioned in the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL*, which has so consistently and so persistently advocated this policy, and we are glad to see them receiving the approval of the distinguished committee appointed to award the prize. Captain PRICE presents his views with clearness and force, and as Colonel OTIS says, "expresses himself with elegance." We hope his essay will receive the consideration it well deserves.

M. DE CASSAGNAC, in the Bonapartist *Pays*, is very violent about RIEL's execution. He calls it an act inspired by race hatred, an act of war against the most ardent representative of French ideas. The English are to-day, he says, just the same as when they burned JOAN OF ARC for witchcraft because she defeated their armies. RIEL's death will be followed by a great rift in the Dominion and the uprising of Transatlantic France. The effect of the Queen's refusal to pardon will be to draw all the Indians to the French side, and to make the Chassepots go off of themselves at Montreal and Quebec. The London *Army and Navy Gazette* holds RIEL's execution to be a mistake, citing the fact that there were no executions during our civil war. It says "the Fenian propaganda will be strengthened in the States. In France, from the press of which many European journals take their cue, there seems to be but one opinion on the subject. We may be indifferent to the opinion of France and of other countries, but it is always impolitic to afford leverage to our enemies. It does not seem likely that any mischief could have been wrought to the reputation or strength of the Government of Canada, or to the prestige of Great Britain, if RIEL had not been hanged."

THERE was a large gathering of Navy officials at the meeting of the Washington branch of the Naval Institute, Wednesday night, in the office of the Secretary of the Navy, to hear the address to the Institute by Rear Admiral E. SIMPSON, its president, on "The Navy and its Prospects of Rehabilitation." The Admiral takes a hopeful view of the prospect of procuring adequate material, the personnel being above reproach. The continuance of the present policy will in time give us 70 vessels actually afloat. He argues at length in favor of a fleet of turreted and barbette armored vessels, and the 700 ton cruiser recommended by the Advisory Board in 1884. He also recommends as an "absolute necessity" the immediate completion of the four double-turreted monitors. The Admiral reiterates his views on the subject of guns, which he has long advanced, and expresses his gratification that these views are now being carried out by the Bureau of Ordnance. He closed with some well considered references to the subjects of armor, torpedoes, and steam engineering.

THE date of HARLOW H. STREET's transfer to the list of supernumeraries should have been given as January 2, 1871. The law required that it should be made January 1, 1871, but, the 1st falling on Sunday, the order of the War Department was dated January 2.

In answer to an inquiry, we state that the proposed change of the Army blouse consists of frogs and loops of braid instead of the button. It is still a question whether the Infantry officer is to have a white or blue stripe on his trousers. These matters await the decision of the Lieutenant-General.

THE second of the three volumes of Farrow's Military Encyclopedia is now before us, and the impression of wonder at the magnitude of the author's undertaking and the industry displayed, produced by the first volume, is now repeated. Indeed the chief criticisms of the work must be based on its rather too hospitable reception of topics not specially related to the Military Art, and on a disproportionate fullness in the treatment of certain topics which the possession of 2,500 large pages of space permits. It is true that in most encyclopedias the lack of proportion in the comparative space given to subjects is obvious, and is presumably due to the great difficulty of devising beforehand an exact schedule of proportions for so many thousands of articles. This tendency takes a form in Lieut. Farrow's work which gives rise to the suggestion that he may have found himself compelled to determine his choice of topics to be enlarged upon somewhat by his material for treating them. To illustrate, we find in the volume before us more than forty large double-column pages devoted to *Riot* and but half a page to *Rebellion*, five lines to *Insurrection*, and, in the previous volume, seven to *Civil War*.

It might, perhaps, be claimed that information on how to deal with riots is of greater immediate and future importance, but over thirty of the pages on *Riot* are devoted to a narrative of the particular railroad and labor riots of one year, 1877, in one country, the United States, while on turning to *G*, we find nothing at all about Gettysburg, a contest of vastly greater importance and interest even to the State of Pennsylvania in which it also occurred. The author also appears to have been struck by this incongruity, for in his article on *Riots* he says: "The great and overwhelming interest exhibited by the people of the United States in the late terrible railroad and labor riots in various parts of the country will cause us to extend the limits of this article." But this reasoning is not quite sound. "Late" these riots undoubtedly were, when the article was compiled, from periodical publications of 1877; but they are already eight years in the past when the volume reaches us, and other subjects have meanwhile attracted popular interest. Lieutenant Farrow's difficulty would seem to have been that of the writer who excused himself for a long article on the ground that he did not have time to make it shorter. While speaking of this blemish in his work thus frankly, we recognize, as we have before said, the enterprise and industry displayed in undertaking it at all and carrying it to completion. As it is, it is an interesting work and has brought together in a shape for reference much valuable material. For example open the volume at the subject, "Quaternions,"—though its only indicated relation to military matters is the statement that quaternions can be applied "to the most formidable problems in geometry and gunnery," yet the condensed account of this subject seems to be given in both a skilful and careful way. So hundreds or thousands of articles on

physics or other scientific subjects which appear to be civil rather more than military, are full of interest. Possibly this over-comprehensiveness of grasp may attract a greater number of readers than a strictly technical and professional military work. We shall be glad to learn that the author's labor and enterprise have been thus rewarded.

THE first successful public test of the pneumatic dynamite gun was made at Fort Lafayette on Saturday last, Nov. 28. The steamer *John E. Moore* carried down to the Fort a party of gentlemen, among whom were Gen. Tewfik Pasha, the Turkish Minister, and a member of his staff; Señor Mendoca, the Brazilian Consul to New York; the Chinese Minister to the United States, and the Chinese Consul to New York. The party were met at the Fort by Lieut. Zalinski, who has the work in charge, and conducted inside the ruins, where the work of preparing for the test was in progress. Six shells had been prepared, three of which were blank and three charged with explosive gelatine. There was but one change in the arrangement of the projectiles from those of previous tests of the same gun. The wooden tail of the shell, instead of having one bulge or rim of wood on the end had two, the second one about six inches up the stem. It was thought that this addition to the area of resistance would keep the shell more steady in its flight through the air. The pneumatic gauge indicated a pressure of about 1,000 pounds of compressed air to the square inch. Aim was taken at a target $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles down the Bay towards Quarantine Hospital, and two shells fired. Then the party went aboard the *John E. Moore* and steamed over to a point off the Staten Island shore below Fort Wadsworth, in order to be near the target when the gelatine cartridges were fired. The next cartridge struck the water without exploding, owing to the stiffness of a lead flange inside the electrical cylinder. The next charge struck the water short of the target, and the boiling of the water which followed its disappearance indicated that it had exploded on the bottom, about 80 feet below. It was 22 seconds in its flight. It contained 50 pounds of gelatine. The last cartridge, containing 100 pounds of gelatine, was fired at a low elevation, in order to bring the explosion as near the steamer as possible. The heavy missile struck the water less than half a mile from the steamer and exploded with terrific force. A solid column of water shot into the air nearly 200 feet and fell back in glistering showers of spray.

WE see published an incorrect statement of the status of Lieut. Simpson, 3d Cavalry. We stated what Attorney General Garland decided at the time the opinion was rendered, and have since published the Secretary of War's action. Mr. Garland's decision was that Simpson and Morgan ceased to be officers of the Army after March 4, 1885, for the reason that Congress adjourned without acting upon their nominations. This held that their nominations were original appointments. The Secretary of War on the contrary very properly held that Simpson's promotion to captain only expired by constitution limitation, and that he is still entitled to his commission of 1st lieutenant. It is a question now whether he is eligible for another promotion. That will be determined when the next vacancy occurs. It is presumed that Simpson will antagonize the confirmation of Steever, but the War Department officials are confident that the Senate will bear them out in their action when the Military Committee are given the particulars in the case.

SERBIA has been delivered from imminent peril of invasion. Prince Alexander has agreed to the armistice proposed by King Milan, and hostilities are at an end. It is reported that the armistice is the direct result of a threat that if Prince Alexander invaded Serbia and refused to suspend hostilities, an Austrian Army would advance across the frontier and attack his forces. In an imperial order issued at St. Petersburg, Dec. 1, "the Czar considers that the determination, self-abnegation, perseverance, and love of order displayed by the Bulgarian-Rumelian troops during the conflict are worthy of high praise," and credits it to "the judicious, self-sacrificing Russian officers who imparted to the troops military qualities and an heroic martial spirit."

At the end of a campaign, too brief to be interesting, King Theebaw finds his capital in possession of the English, and himself a prisoner in their hands. He tried to make terms, but ended in unconditional surrender.

COLONEL JOHN M. WILSON, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., who attended the funeral of Vice President Hendricks, at Indianapolis, by direction of President Cleveland, upon his return to Washington, directly reported to the President the great success of the arrangements planned for his trip to the Vice President's funeral, and also delivered Mrs. Hendrick's acknowledgements of the President's autograph letter and of the message and flowers sent her by Miss Cleveland.

THE Commissioner of Pensions in his annual report suggests that an increased pension should be given in cases of total deafness and in those cases which, in lesser degrees, approximate total deafness, and recommends a rating of \$30 for total deafness and proportionate ratings for lesser degrees of this trouble.

THE Army and Navy did their full share on Tuesday of this week in rendering honor to the memory of Vice-President Thos. A. Hendricks, whose funeral took place on that day.

LATE ARMY ORDERS.

A. G. C. M. will meet at Fort Warren, Mass., Dec. 8. Detail: Majors La Rhett L. Livingston, 4th Art., and Chas. McClure, P. D.; Asst. Surg. Curtis E. Munn, M. D.; Capt. John P. Story, Geo. G. Greenough, 1st Lieut. Wm. F. Stewart, Albert S. Cummins, 4th Art., and 1st Lieut. John A. Lundeen, 4th Art., J. A. (S. O. 256, D. East, Dec. 4).

Asst. Surg. Henry P. Birmingham will report for duty to the C. O. Camp Grant, Riverside Park, N. Y. City, relieving Asst. Surg. Geo. E. Bushnell, who will proceed to Fort Preble, Me., and report for duty as post surgeon. Asst. Surg. Wm. J. Wilson is relieved from duty at Fort Preble and will proceed to Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., and report for duty as post surgeon, relieving Asst. Surg. Daniel M. Appel, who will repair to Jackson Barracks, La., and report for duty (S. O. 156, D. East, Dec. 4).

Major Augustus G. Robinson, Q. M., will proceed to Fort McClary, Kittery Point, Me., on public business (S. O. 256, D. East, Dec. 4).

Major E. B. Williston, 3d Art., will take station at Troy, N. Y., for special duty under the Chief of Ordnance (S. O., H. Q. A., Dec. 4).

The order relieving Capt. A. H. Jackson, 7th Inf., from duty at the Hdqrs. Dept. Columbia is amended to take effect Jan. 1, 1886 (S. O., H. Q. A., Dec. 4).

Capt. C. M. De Lany, 15th Inf., is granted leave for four months, with permission to visit Hot Springs (S. O., H. Q. A., Dec. 4).

The leave of Capt. B. M. Custer, 24th Inf., is extended two months (S. O., H. Q. A., Dec. 4).

The leave of 2d Lieut. C. H. Cochran, 7th Inf., is extended one month (S. O., H. Q. A., Dec. 4).

RECENT DEATHS.

CAPTAIN JOHN H. MCGINNIS, brother of Major James T. McGinnis, U. S. Army, retired, was instantly killed at St. Louis, November 24, being run over by a freight car on the Belt Railroad. Captain McGinnis, at the time of his death, was superintendent of the Belt Railroad, and leaves a widow, but no children. He was highly esteemed in St. Louis and the funeral was attended by prominent citizens and numerous organizations of which he was a member. In the funeral sermon Dr. Hollifield said: "The deceased was a truly Christian man, who, amongst his fellow-men, always acknowledged his Maker, and sought to have others to do the same. He was attentive to his duty in faithfully performing the requirements of an important and responsible trust."

LIEUTENANT RANSOME B. PECK, U. S. N., died at sea November 6 on the vessel which was conveying him, with his family, to Honolulu, for a six months' visit for the benefit of his health, instead of at Vallejo, Cal., November 24, as reported in the press despatches. His last duty was on the *Suvarata*, but the ravages of pulmonary consumption forced his detachment from that vessel last August, and he was granted sick leave until next February to go to the Sandwich Islands, in the hope that the climate there would prolong his life.

DR. JACOB BOCKEE, who died last week at Poughkeepsie of apoplexy, came of an old family, one of whom served with distinction in the Revolutionary War. Dr. Bockee served during the war as a surgeon of volunteers, and at one period of his service was medical director at Pensacola, and surgeon in charge of the U. S. Marine Hospital at New Orleans.

WE regret to learn of the death at Augusta Arsenal, Ga., Nov. 23, of Mrs. Marye, wife of Major W. A. Marye, Ordnance Corps, U. S. A. The deceased lady was in the 23th year of her age, and was a daughter of the late Jas. T. Marye, of Port Gibson, Miss. The remains will be taken to Baltimore, Md., for interment.

Mrs. WILLIAM H. BUTLER, a grandson of Colonel Zebulon Butler, a distinguished officer of the American Army in 1778, died at Wilkesbarre, Pa., November 29, 1885.

MR. AUGUSTINE WATSON, the inventor of the ready stamped newspaper wrapper and the system of storm signals by means of cannon, died last week at Washington.

DOCTOR JACOB R. FREESE, M. D., who served with distinction during the war as an Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers, died at Philadelphia, Nov. 24, 1885.

ARBITRATED out of Carolines, Germany has taken possession of the Marshall Islands a large group of coral formation lying over a thousand miles east of Yap the western extremity of the Carolines.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

IN his annual report, the Secretary of War calls for \$48,204,183.48 for the expenditures of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887, of which \$16,465,630.18 is for public works, including river and harbor improvements. The estimates were \$81,782,423.97. Last year \$45,850,999 was appropriated; for this year \$31,762,413. The Secretary sums up the reports of the Lieut.-Gen., the superintendent of the Military Academy, and the heads of the different bureaus of the War Department, all of which we have given in substance. He says: "The Lieutenant General concurs in the recommendation of the Adjutant General regarding promotions to the grade of major and lieutenant colonel. As this is a purely military matter, the reason for this change are given in the words of the Adjutant General."

He concurs in the recommendation of General Sheridan for the concentration of troops and putting large garrisons in the vicinity of large cities as a measure of economy, and for the addition of two companies and two majors to each regiment of infantry. The Secretary says: "It will be observed that the military commanders consider at length in their reports the policy to be pursued towards the Indians. In view of their experience, their knowledge of the Indian, his character and necessities, these suggestions are of great value; but as the Indians are under the care and control of another Department of the Government, I do not feel justified in offering any recommendation on the subject."

He fully concurs in the recommendation of the superintendent of the Military Academy, that Congress authorize the retention of graduates for whom there are no vacancies, and who elect to serve as additional 2d lieutenants. In view of the recent decision of the 2d Comptroller which sets aside a long usage as to the payment of graduates, he suggests that "Congress authorize their payment as 2d lieutenants from the date of graduation and thus render their service continuous. The Secretary says: "The Superintendent also calls attention to the propriety of requiring all graduates of the Academy to serve two years immediately after graduation at a post-graduate school for the arm of the service to which they belong. He gives excellent reasons for such a course, and the suggestion will receive the careful consideration of the Department. I take pleasure in adding my own testimony to the admirable condition of affairs that now prevails at the Military Academy. The relations between the Superintendent and the cadets leave nothing to be desired. While discipline is strict and constant, there exists a friendliness and confidence between the pupils and those in authority that affords the best guarantee for good government and a high standard of manliness and scholarship."

Of the militia, the Secretary says: "It is believed that additional encouragement given by liberal legislation would place this important arm of our national defence on a higher plane. The laws governing its present organization have become obsolete, and are found insufficient to insure its proper instruction and efficiency. While I have not had an opportunity to examine the bills which have been introduced into Congress to secure these ends, yet from what I have learned of their provisions I am quite of the opinion that some better system than that now in force should be adopted. The necessity for a change in the militia arm, making it uniform with that now in use in the Army, was manifest on a recent occasion, when it was thought probable that the militia of several of the States bordering on the Indian Territory might be called into active service to aid in putting down a threatened Indian trouble of more than usual magnitude. The reports of the several officers of the Army detailed as professors of tactics and military science at colleges afford gratifying proof of the good results which the legislation authorizing these details have conferred upon the youth of the country. The recommendation of Gen. Drum on the subject of preserving the decaying muster rolls "is an important question and demands serious consideration." He concurs in the opinion of General Davis that a consolidation of the 119 garrisoned military posts into a smaller number, with corresponding increase of garrisons, would improve the efficiency of the Army and promote economy. It is being done as rapidly as the appropriation will allow. In relation to the period of enlistment, he says, "There is also much difference of opinion. I am not prepared to recommend on this point, but would respectfully suggest that the subject is worthy the attention of Congress."

He thinks it is well worthy of consideration whether the officers in command of troops at military posts or the captains of companies should not be authorized to impose punishment for minor offences. It is believed that a statute might be framed resembling those in other countries, and providing that for certain minor offences slight punishments might be imposed, like deduction of pay, short imprisonments, deprivation of privileges, etc., which would reduce the number of trials, do equal justice to offenders, and in the end prove beneficial to the discipline of the Service. The British military law on this subject is referred to by way of illustration. He calls attention to the present condition of the Judge-Advocate General's Bu-

reau, and recommends the appointment of a Judge-Advocate General, or such legislation as will meet the difficulty. The office is for all practical purposes vacant, for its duties can never be performed by the present incumbent. The best interests of the Service require it to be filled. The Secretary says: "The question was recently raised at a Court-martial in the military Department of Texas whether a civilian witness who stood mute and refused to testify could be punished for contempt. There was much difference of opinion among the military authorities in regard to the course to be pursued, and, upon the request of the General commanding that department, the question was submitted to the Attorney-General for his decision. That officer has decided that a Court-martial has no authority to punish a civilian witness who simply refuses to testify."

"I am not aware that the question has been formally raised before, though no authority can be found in which such an exercise of power as punishment for contempt by a Court-martial has been approved by any court of last resort. To clothe military courts with such authority in time of peace might be open to grave objections. At the same time, the failure of justice which might follow, if such refusal could pass unpunished, renders it important that some action should be taken. I would therefore suggest that a statute be enacted whereby an attachment against such witness for contempt would issue, upon application to a United States court, as in the case of a witness refusing to testify before a master in chancery, or a grand jury, or as prescribed in the act of Congress, now repealed, in regard to witnesses refusing to testify before registers in bankruptcy."

In view of a recent decision of the Supreme Court, he says: "I feel called upon to suggest that a statute be enacted applying the common-law rule to deserters, authorizing their arrest, as in cases of felony, by private citizens or police officers, for the purpose of surrendering them to the proper authorities for trial."

The Secretary reviews at length the act of March 3, 1885, compensating officers and enlisted men for personal property lost in the military service, and urges objection to it as providing a "mode of procedure in effecting a settlement of these claims differing from the well established rules which govern the adjudication of other claims of the Government." In the British Service the value of articles so lost is determined by a board who recommend the amount to be allowed within a scale from a maximum of £314 (light equipment in the field) and £373 (full equipment in garrison) for a general officer, to a minimum of £70 2s. and £97 2s., respectively, for assistant or veterinary surgeons of infantry.

In the French Army there exists a fund known as "the general subsistence fund," being a certain sum allowed by the government to each regiment or other military organization, which is applied to commutation of officers' quarters, office expenses, commutation of rations, loss of private effects, or when horses or effects are taken by the enemy—open to officers of all grades. In regard to the German Army there does not appear to be any legislation of this character.

The garrisons of casemated forts should be quartered in time of peace outside of the works. The Secretary says.

\$450,000 is asked for to purchase the old Produce Exchange for an Army Building in New York so that it can be occupied May 1, 1886, when the lease of the present building expires.

The Secretary "most heartily" concurs in the recommendation of the Commissary-General for the enlistment of cooks, and trusts "that the necessary authority will be granted by Congress, as it is of the first importance for the health, comfort, and contentment of the men that their food is well cooked and properly served."

Measures should be taken to provide against the possible spread of the cholera in the Army. Ice-machines should be furnished for military posts located in the intensely hot regions of Texas and Arizona. This is a measure not so much of luxury as necessity for the comfort of the troops, and indispensable in treatment of the sick. They are so expensive that they cannot well be procured under the ordinary appropriations. There is a growing necessity for a regularly organized hospital corps, to provide trained cooks, nurses, and attendants for the service of Army hospitals, the present system being found unsatisfactory. A combination of such hospital corps with the ambulance corps now authorized by Army Regulations in time of war would place our Army on most excellent footing for the proper care and treatment of the sick and wounded at all times, without impairing its effective strength by details for this service.

It is recommended that Congress enact into a law the suggestion of Gen. Rochester that an officer travelling under orders be allowed his actual fare, and in addition thereto a certain rate of mileage by the shortest usually travelled route, including travel over land-grant roads, sufficient to meet all expenses incident to his journey. Under the present law it rests largely with the conscience of the individual what he will charge as actual expenses within the limits which have been fixed by the Department. The attention of Congress is invited to the defence

less condition of our seacoast and lake frontiers. As the Board of Fortifications and other Defences will deal with the whole subject, it is not deemed necessary or proper at this time to consider that question or make any recommendations on the subject. The report to be submitted to Congress is now in preparation, and it is hoped that it may be presented in January next.

The limited amount of funds available during the past year has been mainly applied to placing in serviceable condition the platforms of heavy guns and mortars bearing upon the channels of entrance to the various harbors.

The small appropriation asked for the next fiscal year for surveys required for military purposes and for the publication of maps for the use of the War Department is earnestly recommended.

As to the Ordnance Department: The Lee, Chaffee-Reece, and Hotchkiss magazine guns are in the hands of the troops for trial, but the results cannot now be stated, as all the reports have not been received. The Department last spring contracted with the Midvale Steel Company for a tube, jacket, and forged trunnion hoop for an 8-inch breech-loading steel rifle. These are the largest gun forgings yet attempted in this country, and these results are looked forward to with great interest. The low-st offer for furnishing hoops for the 10-inch breech-loading steel rifle came from the Cambria Iron Company, Johnstown, Pa. The manufacture of these large hoops under such severe specification was a bold undertaking, and argues well for the enterprise and self-reliance of the company.

The experiments undertaken by the Ordnance Board have demonstrated the necessity of substituting for the ordinary explosive gelatine, heretofore used in their experiments, a camphorated variety, which shall prove less sensitive and more uniform in its action.

The Department has contracted with the Midvale Steel Company for the forgings for 25 3.2-in. B. L. steel field guns, 20 of which are to be manufactured at the West Point Foundry and the remaining 5 at the Watertown Arsenal.

Of the Signal Corps the Secretary says: I am unable to concur in the recommendations of the Chief Signal Officer for legislation to provide for the permanent detail of fifty enlisted men from the line of the Army for duty on the military telegraph lines; for including the appropriations for the Signal Service in the appropriations for the Army; and for the reorganization of the Signal Service Corps of officers by appointing a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, major, and eight captains, and the promotion of 2d lieutenants.

The duties in which the corps is now engaged are civil and not military. It performs no military service; its only exercise that is military in its character is the art of military signaling, which, owing to the pressure of meteorological duties, has been neglected in the past, though it is proposed to press the study more vigorously in the future. Nor is this study as pursued in the corps important to the Army, which receives, through its own officers, all the necessary instruction. It is evident that the studies and labors of the Signal Service in the scientific field upon which it has entered will more and more absorb and engross its energies, and it must ultimately become a purely civil organization. It would, therefore, be unwise, with this prospect before us, to provide for its permanent attachment to the Army, and to give to it the unbending organization and discipline of a military body. It must depend upon the efforts of men who are engaged in technical study, and any officer who takes part in its work must be valuable for his studious and scientific labor, rather than for his military ability and his soldierly qualities.

In concluding he says: "I have not at the present time any suggestions to make in regard to the organization of this Department, except in one particular. There is no Assistant Secretary of War, and it is necessary for the proper transaction of the public business that there should be such an officer. The daily routine in relation to the affairs of the Army, and the direction of public works, the settlement of claims and other duties required of the Secretary of War under special provisions of law, and in addition thereto the supervision and regulation of the clerical force of this Department, numbering 1,750 employees, impose an amount of work which would seem to justify this recommendation. There is no officer in the Department, as now organized, legally vested with authority to assist the Secretary in the performance of these duties, while his temporary absence, under present conditions, often results in great inconvenience."

WILLIAM C. ENDICOTT, Secretary of War.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The attempt in recent years to re-establish the Napoleonic system has revived, in all their old bitterness, the controversies concerning the first Napoleon. The leader in the new assault upon him has been Pierre Lanfrey, whose six volume History of Napoleon I. was published at Paris, 1867-74. Lanfrey wrote this history amid the scenes that immediately preceded and followed the overthrow of the second empire, and it was too much to ask that he, being a Frenchman, should hold to an impartial judgment as to the founder of the system he condemned. Lanfrey served France as a soldier during the Franco German War and afterwards as a foreign minister and a life senator; but he is primarily a man of letters, and men of letters have little cause to revere the memory of either Napoleon. Napoleonism, in spite of its meretricious display of goodwill toward literature, was in reality hostile to the spirit of independent thought, which is the vital breath of literature. Napoleon I. ostentatiously distributed "Decennial Prizes" for literary excellence to writers long since forgotten, but he banished Madame de Staël for a *mot* and condemned her works; his Chief of Police adding unconscious humor to the condemnation by returning to her publisher the pittance obtained for the card board into which the printed volumes were ground up.

Lanfrey's latest critic, Mr. John C. Ropes of Boston, has, as it seems to us, left somewhat out of his calculation this characteristic of the Napoleonic dynasty, in his description of it as a liberal and en-

lightened government. It was liberal only to those ideas which favored its ambitious projects. Indeed, Mr. Ropes seems, in the enthusiasm of his study of Napoleon's brilliant campaigns, to have advanced somewhat beyond his previous judgment concerning their author. When Lanfrey's book was first published he was willing to admit that Napoleon was unquestionably selfish and unscrupulous. Now, Mr. Ropes contends that Napoleon's powers were always at the service of the public; his efforts as a whole were on the right side; he was the unsparing foe of tyranny and injustice, and he did more than any man of his time to relieve the masses of the people of Europe from the burdens which oppression and intolerance had laid upon them, and to open to them the prospects and hopes which under a liberal and enlightened government give to life so much of its enjoyment and value. He classes him among the friends and helpers of the race.

Whatever may be thought as to this, Mr. Ropes is quite right in his statement that Lanfrey and his school confuse political rights, with political and legal liberties, and in condemning Napoleon because of his assumption of supreme authority, forget that in assuming it "he deprived the people of no political power that they then were exercising, or ever had exercised." The fundamental thing in France, as Mr. Ropes contends, was equality before the law. If this be preserved most Frenchmen cared little then, and care little to-day who administers the Government.

It is on this argument that Mr. Ropes's work as a political sketch, is framed, and he presents it clearly and with force, contending in passing that Napoleon's name will be more widely known through the Code Napoleon than by the lustre of his victories. He has no patience with people who, led away by a notion of patriotism at that time impossible would refuse to see that the side of France was, throughout the wars of the Revolution and the Empire, the side of civil and religious liberty. But even Mr. Ropes is forced to the conclusion that Napoleon's disasters in Spain were the legitimate result of unwarranted and unwise intermeddling in the affairs of a state in which the spirit of patriotism burned with unquenchable and fanatical fervor.

In his consideration of the causes of the Russian war Mr. Ropes overlooks, or at least does not mention the influence upon the Czar's feeling toward France of Napoleon's cavalier treatment of his sister, the Grand Duchesse Anne, when he was looking for a successor to Josephine. To change his mind after he had proposed to the lady, and insult her with a matrimonial ultimatum evidently designed to secure his freedom, was, of all things, that best calculated to awaken in the breast of an autocratic ruler the determination to destroy. The weakness of Napoleon, and the cause of his ultimate overthrow aside from this, as stated by Mr. Ropes, was "an inordinate reliance on the use of force, a professional soldier's forgetfulness of the blessings of peace, a gambler's willingness to risk everything on the issue of a battle, and a totally inadequate appreciation of the importance of the preservation of the Empire and of the consequent duty of preventing any dangerous combination against its integrity." The manifest want of serious appreciation of his real position during the years 1813 and 1814 seems to Mr. Ropes to indicate in Napoleon a deplorable and radical defect in mind and character. Not so much what we call moral perversity as "an inability to grasp the essential conditions of the problem, which in any ordinary man of the world, we should be surprised to find, combined with a total deficiency in that sobriety and seriousness with which in a man of strong character deals with great emergencies. He seems to have been incapable of listening to the dictates of prudence and common sense." It was due largely to the folly of Napoleon "that the political development of France was arrested, and its course turned to a greater or less extent, into the discarded channels of eighteenth century politics."

As a military study Mr. Ropes's work is most interesting, and commands itself as such especially to our readers. To undertake to criticize it in this respect would compel us to write a companion volume, and we should hesitate to put ourselves in comparison with so competent a military critic as Mr. Ropes has shown himself to be. He presents his views of the campaigns of Napoleon clearly and intelligently and with the earnestness of conviction as to the correctness of his own conclusions.

*The First Napoleon. A Sketch, Political and Military. By John Codman Ropes, Author of the Army Under Pope, etc., etc. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Co.

THE MESS.

In the first volume of the "Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant," just published, there are so many touches of a humorous character that it is a source of pleasure, in now reading them, to reflect that he must have found some amusement in recalling these incidents, while writing them and revising the proof, during his last illness.

While Lieut. Grant was in Texas, with his regiment, in 1846, awaiting the outbreak of the Mexican War, many of the officers had fine sport in hunting the deer, antelope and wild turkeys that abounded there, but Grant being no sportsman, never went after them. One day, however, while on a journey with Lieut. Benjamin, he concluded to go out and bring back a few turkeys. In a few moments he heard the flutter of wings overhead, and saw two or three turkeys flying away. "These," he says, "were soon followed by more, then more, and more, until a flock of twenty or thirty had left from just over my head. All this time I stood watching the turkeys to see where they flew—with my gun on my shoulder. I never once thought of levelling it at the birds. When I had time to reflect upon the matter I came to the conclusion that as a sportsman I was a failure, and went back to the house. Benjamin remained out and got as many turkeys as he wanted to carry back."

On this same journey the two companions heard one evening a "most unearthly howling of wolves," directly ahead, in the tall prairie grass. To Grant it seemed that there were scores of them; but when his companion asked him how many he thought there were in the pack, Grant, determining to set the number far below the reality, answered with

affected indifference, "Oh, about twenty." Benjamin, who was from Indiana, where wolves still abounded, and knew their ways, smiled and rode on, while Grant followed in his trail, "lacking moral courage to turn back." Benjamin had better understood the nature of wolves, and their capacity to make a noise. "In a minute," says Grant, "we were close upon them, and before they saw us. There were just two of them seated upon their haunches, with their mouths close together; they had made all the noise we had been hearing for the past ten minutes. I have often thought of this incident since when I have heard the noise of a few disappointed politicians who had deserted their associates. There are always more of them before they are counted."

All the officers at Corpus Christi kept horses, if they liked riding, as they cost very little, and got their living without cost, when picketed. Lieut. Grant, however, lost all three of his horses by the carelessness of a colored servant. Capt. Bliss, afterwards referring to this misfortune, said carelessly that he had "heard Grant lost five or six dollars' worth of horses." But "that," adds Grant, "was a slander—they were broken to the saddle and cost nearly twenty." Five dollars bought him another mustang the day the army went forward from Corpus Christi, this being an advance of seventy-five per cent. on what the owner had paid.

While a lieutenant Grant by accident had his first glimpse of "a couple of gentlemen deciding a difference of opinion with rifles at twenty paces." This prompts him to say: "I do not believe I ever would have the courage to fight a duel. If any man should wrong me to the extent of my being willing to kill him, I would not be willing to give him the choice of weapons with which it should be done, and of the time, place, and distance separating us, when I executed him. If I should do another such a wrong as to justify him in killing me, I would make any reasonable atonement within my power, if convinced of the wrong done. I place my opposition to duelling on higher grounds than any here stated."

His first move towards an engagement as Colonel of the 21st Illinois was in Missouri, against the camp of Col. Harris. The consciousness of supreme responsibility affected him, in spite of his Mexican War experience. He says that this feeling increased as he got nearer the decisive spot. "My heart kept getting higher and higher until it felt to me as though it was in my throat. I would have given anything then to have been back in Illinois, but I had not the moral courage to halt and consider what to do; I kept right on. When we reached a point from which the valley below was in full view I halted. The place where Harris had been encamped a few days before was still there and the marks of a recent encampment were plainly visible, but the troops were gone. My heart resumed its place. It occurred to me at once that Harris had been as much afraid of me as I had been of him. This was a view of the question I had never taken before; but it was one I never forgot afterwards. From that event to the close of the war I never experienced trepidation upon confronting an enemy, though I always felt more or less anxiety."

Military Order of the Loyal Legion.

A meeting of the Maine Commandery was held at Portland Dec. 2 and the following elected: Lieut. C. O. Hunt, U. S. V., and Lieut. Guy Howard, 12th U. S. Infantry, of Fort Niagara, N. Y., eldest son of Gen. O. O. Howard, U. S. A. The commandery is flourishing.

At a meeting of the Wisconsin Commandery, held at Milwaukee Dec. 2, the following were balloted for: Lt. H. W. Huriburt, U. S. V.; Lt. T. Nelson, U. S. V.; Col. E. F. Ferris, U. S. V.; Col. H. J. Campbell, U. S. V., and Lt. T. L. Kennan, U. S. V.

At a meeting of the Minnesota Commandery, held at St. Paul, Dec. 2, the following were balloted for: Col. E. C. Mason, U. S. A.; Maj. J. P. Rea, U. S. V.; Lt. W. McCrory, U. S. V.; Capt. R. L. Gorman, U. S. V.; Surg. S. C. McCormick, U. S. V., and Mr. L. E. Newport. At this meeting an interesting paper on "Some Account and Reminiscences of the Mobile Campaigns of 1864 and 1865," was read by Major Chas. J. Allen, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A. Gen. S. Breck, U. S. A., has been transferred to the Nebraska Commandery.

The New York Commandery held a meeting, Dec. 2, Gen. E. L. Molineux presiding, Gen. C. A. Carleton, recorder. The following new members were elected: Col. James S. Thurston, U. S. V.; Gen. Winsor B. French, U. S. V.; Col. Henry T. Noyes, U. S. V.; 2d Asst. Engr. Charles E. Emery, U. S. V.; Capt. Nathan W. Horton, U. S. V.; Capt. William H. Pierpont, U. S. V.; 1st Lieut. Emil H. Frank, U. S. V.; Mr. Edward D. Bansom (hereditary); Capt. Albert V. Meeks, U. S. V.; Col. Henry A. Weeks, U. S. V.; Major Thomas B. Odell, U. S. V.; Gen. James G. Wilson, U. S. V., and Major William F. Spurgin, U. S. Army. Obituary resolutions were adopted in the case of Asst. Surg. J. S. Delevan, U. S. V. An announcement was made of the deaths of Surg. William Frothingham and Gen. William Heine, U. S. V. Col. John H. Ammon was received by transfer from the Massachusetts Commandery. Rear-Admiral Francis A. Roe, U. S. N., and Col. Royal E. W. Itman, U. S. A., were transferred to the District of Columbia Commandery. Messages of greeting were sent to the new Commanderies of Oregon and Missouri.

The following resolutions were reported by the Committee of which Alex. S. Webb, Bvt. Major General, U. S. A., was chairman, and passed at the November meeting of the New York Commandery:

Whereas, Divine Providence has removed from our midst our Companion, Major-General George B. McClellan, late General Commanding the Armies of the United States, we, the New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, who have for twenty years regarded him as a friend, a counselor, and a leader, deem it proper at this, the first meeting of our Commandery since his decease, to bear fitting testimony to our love for the man, our devotion to our late comrade in arms, our respect and admiration for the character which he displayed as a citizen, and to express our warmest sympathy for his family, now deprived of the guidance and support of one who in all the relations of home was as loving as he was valorous: be it

Resolved, That bowing to the decree which has deprived us of the companionship of our former beloved Commander-in-Chief—the organizer and the first leader of the Army of the Potomac, that Army which for four years confronted and finally put to confusion the strongest, the most aggressive, and the most ably commanded Army of the South—we tender to the bereaved family this expression of our high estimation of George B. McClellan's services to his country, and of the profound sympathy we feel for them in their great and irreparable loss.

Resolved, That the New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States recognize in Gen. George B. McClellan the able and successful Governor, the world-renowned military chieftain, the efficient organizer and leader of our Armies, the eminent civil engineer, the loyal citizen and the gifted patriot; and they declare to their fellow citizens their long-continued faith in and love for one who has been for a whole life kind and affectionate, and without guile in his relations to his fellow-men; and devotion to the memory of one who during the time of his service with us as commander equally endeared himself to officer and private.

Resolved, That out of respect for the memory of Major-General George B. McClellan this Commandery will wear the usual badge of mourning for six months.

THE STATE TROOPS.

COMMAND OF THE FIRST DIVISION.

The testimony of Mr. Wilson, before the Senatorial Commission, sitting in New York, to which we have alluded, resulted this week in the arrest of General Alex. Shaler on a bench warrant, granted upon the application of the District Attorney. The charges against General Shaler are, in substance, the acceptance of a money consideration to influence his action in the purchase of real estate for the erection of armories. This constitutes, under the law of New York, a felony, punished by a fine and imprisonment not to exceed two years, or both. Gen. Shaler was arrested in the evening and held at the Central Police office until the next morning, when he gave bail in \$10,000. Mr. Gustav Schwab becoming his bondsman. Ex-Mayor Edson offered himself but was ineligible, not possessing the necessary amount of real estate. The simple statement of these facts is sufficient. It would be harsh and unjust to pass any opinion. General Shaler emphatically declares his ability to prove his innocence of the charge brought against him, and the thousands who have held him in honor as a leading citizen of New York, and the head of its National Guard, will rejoice at witnessing his triumphant acquittal.

As matters stand, his voluntary withdrawal from the position of the Major General commanding the 1st Division is out of the question; hence, as it seems to us, the speculations as to his successor are somewhat premature. Still, they have gone too far to escape attention, and it may be well, therefore, to say that whenever the time comes to choose a commander for the 1st Division neither political creed, war record, nor social or political claims should control in the selection. What is wanted is a man of known military ability, mental and physical vigor, thorough knowledge of the Guard, independent means, and unsullied reputation. To secure such a man the Governor need not go outside of the 1st Division itself. Such a man will be found, for example, in Col. Josiah Porter, of the 22d Regt., about whose merits as a thorough soldier and a successful commander of citizen troops, there can be no question. We do not know what Col. Porter himself thinks of the matter, but in the event of a vacancy the Governor could not show his appreciation of the welfare of his troops in a better manner than by his appointment as the commander of the 1st Division. What is wanted is a man who will strengthen the 1st Division; not a man who looks to the 1st Division to elevate him. Gov. Hill has heretofore shown such excellent judgment in his conduct of the affairs of the Guard that we count upon his permitting the demand for improper candidates to expend itself in talk and newspaper discussion, while he goes quietly about his business of choosing the very best man for the place. We say this only because the discussion of this matter has been opened, expressing at the same time our sincere hope that nothing will be proven to the disadvantage of Gen. Shaler as a citizen, as a public officer, or as a soldier.

On Friday Gen. Shaler was indicted by the Grand Jury.

MILITARY STAGE EXHIBITIONS.

A SERIOUS stumbling block in the way of the development of a sound system of discipline in the National Guard is the mistaken idea that spectacular effect is the ultimate object of all the drill and training of the State troops. While this idea develops itself in various directions, it assumes its most reprehensible form when entire companies, armed and equipped, go bodily on the stage, and by their performance there enhance the effect of some of our modern spectacular pieces. Such exhibitions are deplorable, and for this reason General Barnes, of the 13th Regiment, deserves great credit for his prompt veto in a recent case of this sort, which involved one of the companies of his regiment. The Guard and the public who understand the matter would have been sorry to see the "Old Thirteenth" engaged in such work.

The practice of companies going on the stage or engaging in other unmilitary exhibitions is becoming quite general, and a prompt check wherever the evil crops out should be applied. We just learn from one of our Massachusetts exchanges that the proprietor of a skating rink has offered a prize of \$500 for a grand military tournament and invites companies to participate in the same, and a company of another Brooklyn regiment is announced shortly to take part in a public dramatic performance. Probably the latter event, when we go to press, will have come off.

While military competitions should be encouraged so long as they are healthy and conducted on proper principles, these performances for gate money, newspaper effect, or any purposes other than such as will improve the military spirit, should be frowned down and prohibited by the proper authorities. Military shows for gate money are not even popular among civilians, at least in the North, as the fiasco of the recent Philadelphia affair demonstrated beyond question. Organizations which desire to exhibit their proficiency will find ample opportunity for doing so in a legitimate manner, and without detriment to the character of the military profession, which must inevitably result if they lend themselves to further the financial schemes of the theatrical managers, rink keepers, and others who prey upon their vanity.

THE SLOCUM BILL.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

The provisions of the "Slocum bill," recently published in the JOURNAL, are a great improvement upon the legislation now contained in the U. S. Revised Statutes upon the subject of the militia, and the earnest efforts of all those who are interested in the improvement of the National Guard of the various States should be exerted to secure its enactment. There is one amendment, however, which I desire to suggest. It is well known that it is not an uncommon occurrence that the ordnance supplies, and particularly the ammunition which is issued to the various States by the Ordnance Department, are imperfect. For example, the Lowell cartridges, which the State of New York has received as a part of its quota from the Ordnance Department, are so inferior that complaints have been made to the mili-

tary authorities by the regiments who have used them, in consequence of the shells splitting, the heads coming off, etc. It is also known that under the system of bookkeeping which exists in the Ordnance Department articles are carried and issued at prices which are far above the market rates. Thus some time since, when an application was made to Gen. Benét for some flintlock guns to be used by a cadet corps, they would not be issued except at the price of \$18 apiece, because that was the invoice price at which they were carried by the Ordnance Department, whereas in fact they would have been dear at a dollar. These facts form almost the only reasons why everybody is not in favor of the bill.

To obviate these objections in the future I would suggest that provisions should be inserted in the bill providing:

1st. That any State to which ordnance stores are issued as part of its quota under the bill should have the right to have them condemned if unserviceable, and thereupon return them to the Ordnance Department; and

2d. That the value of such articles as are issued should be such as would rule at the time in open market.

For this purpose I would suggest the following as an addition to the 14th section:

In case any arms, equipment, ordnance stores and camp equipment issued to any of the States or Territories as a part of its quota under the present bill shall be considered by the military authorities thereof as unserviceable or unsuitable, the Governor thereof shall, within three months after the receipt thereof, transmit a Board of Officers of the active militia to examine the same and give notice thereof to the Secretary of War, who shall be authorized to detail an officer of the Regular Army to act in connection with such Board. In case such Board shall, after examining such articles, report that the same are unserviceable or unsuitable, the Governor of the State or Territory shall thereupon forward its report direct to the proper bureau of the War Department and shall thereupon be authorized to return the said articles to the Ordnance Department, who shall give the State or Territory returning the same credit therefor at the price at which the same was issued to the latter in the first instance.

All arms, equipments, ordnance stores and camp equipment issued to any State or Territory under the provisions of this act shall be so issued at rates not exceeding the prices by which the same can be purchased in open market.

FIRST DIVISION.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24, 1885.

NATIONAL GUARD AND STREET PARADES.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKS:

Is this true? That the prosperity and efficiency of the New York National Guard depends upon having 5th Avenue clear of horse car tracks, and that serious consequences will follow if the Guard cannot parade on the Avenue. I do not believe it, nor do the backbone of the service either. But somebody does evidently and has believed it. We all know, for many years, to the detriment of the 1st Division.

The statement referred to is contained in a circular recently issued to the 1st Division inviting National Guardsmen to protest against the use of 5th Avenue for horse railroad tracks and is to the effect that:

The prosperity, efficiency and esprit de corps of the National Guard greatly depends upon and is materially promoted by the public parades made on Decoration Day and other important occasions, and upon the public reviews by the President of the United States, the Governor of this State and other distinguished personages, and the interest of the people, and especially of the young men of this city in its military organizations will be greatly diminished, and the value of the military establishment as the right arm of civil authority in periods of public peril and disorder will be greatly impaired by the laying of such a track.

Our correspondent, to some extent, takes us into a foreign field, and in justice to ourselves it would be well to say that we are downright opposed, first and last, to any attempt at laying horse railroads on 5th Avenue.

At the same time we do not believe that the existence of such a road on 5th Avenue or elsewhere will interfere with the existence, progress or development of any of the New York City organizations of State troops. The time for such a complaint has happily passed, and those who entertain old-fashioned notions to the contrary are being rapidly eliminated from the ranks of the troops, and the sooner they disappear entirely the better. The general movement of the Guard is, however, in the direction of healthy progress, and those who assert that its prosperity depends solely upon successful parades down 5th Avenue, are mistaken or, perhaps, misled by their own wishes. If such a condition of affairs did exist, the Guard would hardly be worthy of the support of the public.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

COMPETITIVE DRILLS.

THESE drills have been of inestimable service; they have awakened an interest all over this country in the great national work of the citizen, volunteer, soldiery. They have furnished many thousands of competent instructors in the school of the soldier, the company, and the regiment; while they have built up a great volunteer army of 140,000 well equipped and well drilled troops, equal to all defensive emergencies of this country.

But while these drills have done a great work, they have not yet come up to the necessities of modern war. They have taught well the importance and beauty of prompt co-operative obedience for the sake of obedience, but they have not yet attained to that essential of modern warfare which will be found in the individuality of the man upon the skirmish line.

The wars before us will be fought by active sharp-shooting, and all preparation of armies should look to that.

For this work no man is so capable as the native American, and we are so separated by our peculiar geographical isolation, and by our experience in acquiring dominion over this New World from the Old world traditions, that we can lead off in this "new departure" and build up an army of sharpshooters so that none can withstand it.

We have only to look up the wretched work of the British Army in the Sudan and elsewhere to see how incapable are squares and masses of troops in this day, and how essential to the modern soldier is individuality. With long range repeating arms in the hands of expert American marksmen all things are possible, and our efforts should be directed to developing this power in our troops.

We have had enough of the competition in exactitude of movement in ranks. Now let us expand

our view to attain the great essential of the soldier of this day. Let us have some competitive drills of sharpshooters and give the prizes to those who can in shortest time deploy as skirmishers and put the greatest number of balls into the targets. We have shown wonderful capacity to go back to the exactitude of Frederick the Great and the British pipe clay soldier. Now let us show how expert we can be in all to which modern improvements in arms have attained in the solemn work of war.

DABNEY H. MAURY.

THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION.

THE fifth annual Convention of the National Guard Association of the United States will be held in Washington Dec. 15, at 10 A. M., at the Ebbitt House. The circular making the announcement calls attention to the fact that Congress will then be in session, and it is hoped that the National Guard of each State will be represented in such a manner as will materially help the association in its efforts towards securing legislation, from Congress for a more generous support of the militia of the several States, a work in which it has been engaged for the last four years. The association intends to renew its exertions at the opening of the next Congress to pass the Sewell and Slocum bills, but, to insure success, it is necessary that the Congressmen from the several States should understand that the measures are popular among their constituents. Each State is entitled to send five delegates from the officers or ex-officers of its National Guard to the Convention. The following subjects are announced for discussion: 1. The progress that has been made in each State during the past year in advancing the efficiency of its National Guard. 2. The relative merits of regimental or brigade camps, and whether it is best to hold them near large cities. 3. Suggestions in regard to Gen. Slocum's bill for the improvement of the militia.

NEW YORK.

As a rule, the separate companies have proved themselves equal in discipline, instruction and physique to the best of the city regiments and superior to some. Any increase in their number may, therefore, be regarded as an acquisition to the Guard. A new company was mustered in November 18 by Col. T. H. McGrath, of the Inspector-General's Department, at Ogdensburg, to be known as the 35th Separate Company. This little command is reported to be of excellent material and the impression it made at its first appearance would certainly indicate for it a prosperous future, especially in a location as favorable as Ogdensburg for such an organization. The Captain is Wm. L. Best; the 1st Lieut. Henry Holland. A 2d Lieutenant has not yet been procured.

On November 29 a new company was mustered in at Niagara Falls, and the manner in which it turned out for the first time (78 men present out of an aggregate of 85) shows that it commences in dead earnest. Everything indicates a company of the maximum strength in a short time. The company is officered as follows:

Captain Chas. B. Gaskill; 1st Lieut. L. W. Pettibone; 2d Lieut. M. B. Butler.

It is composed of the very best material at Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge—men of fine physique, full age, and superior intelligence, being drawn mostly from the mercantile and professional classes, and this fact, in connection with its fine location, will make the company a very valuable acquisition.

The mustering in of Co. D on Thursday, Nov. 19, raised the 55th Regiment to an eight company organization. The revival of the 55th in this manner is a gratifying fact. The company is commanded by Captain John H. Swanson, a foreman in one of General Jewett's factories, in whose employment are most of the members—principally Swedes. The fact of so large a concern as that of Jewett and Sons taking this interest in the N. G. is very commendable and worthy of note.

A building for the recently organized company at Fort Niagara has been purchased.

The Board of Officers' dinner of the 22d Regiment will take place Dec. 19.

Captain W. W. Carnes, Macon Volunteers, was in New York this week on a business trip.

Company H, 22d Regiment, Captain Potter, held their reception at the armory on Thursday evening, Dec. 3, and had a very enjoyable time.

State G. O. 22, of Nov. 28 directs that, as a mark of regard for the late Vice President, the flags upon the Capitol and upon all the public buildings of the State including the armories and arsenals of the National Guard, be displayed at half-mast until and including the day of the funeral.

Lieut.-Col. Geo. Moore Smith has been appointed President of a Delinquency Court in the 7th regt., to be held Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 8 P. M.

The resignation of 2d Lieut. W. H. Crossman, 7th regt., has been accepted, and he has been honorably discharged.

With regard to 1st Lieut. Chas. R. Willets, who died Oct. 16 last, Col. Clarke, in general orders, says: "Lieut. Willets enlisted in Co. E, March 5, 1875, and was elected a corporal, Oct. 6, 1876; 1st sergeant, Dec. 14, 1880; 2d lieutenant, Oct. 24, 1884, and 1st lieutenant, April 17, 1885. As an officer, Lieut. Willets was distinguished for his fidelity and ability, and as a gentleman, he was universally respected and beloved."

Capt. Lefferts and Lieuts. Fisk and Cooper were detailed as the 7th regiment Board of Examination of non-commissioned officers the Board to meet on the third Monday of March, June, September and December.

Co. F, 14th regt., had street riot drill, Friday evening, Dec. 4, formations being made at the following points: Cumberland st., corner of Lafayette ave.; corners of Schermerhorn and Bond sts.; Schermerhorn and Smith; Schermerhorn and Clinton; Clinton st. and Atlantic ave.; Montague and Clinton; Montague and Court, which last point was reached about 9.50.

The elections of field officers of the 14th Regt., on Monday, Nov. 30, resulted as follows: For colonel, Lieut.-Col. Harry W. Mitchell, and for lieutenant-colonel, Major Selden C. Clotbridge, both of which gentlemen accepted on the spot. Capt. John McNeil, of Co. H, who received the majority of votes for the position of major, did not accept at once, but stated that he would consider the matter. Col. Mitchell has been a member of the 14th since 1861, since which time he

has followed the fortunes of the regiment through all the grades up to his present position. Lieut.-Col. Clobridge performed gallant service during the war, and he points with pride to his empty sleeve as a verification of his record. He became adjutant of the 14th in 1873, and was subsequently elected major. Major-elect McNeill is one of the oldest members of the 14th, and served with it with great credit during the war.

The 47th regiment fair, after a highly satisfactory run, came to a close, Wednesday evening, Dec. 2. G. O. 23, from State Headquarters states that the regulations prepared by the Commission appointed in S. O. 23, Series of 1884, are approved and adopted for the guidance and Government of the National Guard, to go into effect Jan. 1, 1886. Under sec. 133 of the Military Code, these regulations have the same force and effect as the provisions of such Military Code. Such provisions and rules as are established in the Military Code of the State, and the Articles of War of the United States, not being repeated in the Regulations, the Military Code and Articles of War will be published with the Regulations.

MINNESOTA.

THE result of the Rifle Practice for the year ending July 31, 1885, first published in General Orders, show the Minnesota troops in a very encouraging condition as to marksmanship, and if their status, with regard to discipline, is of the same order, they deserve credit. Not quite fifty per cent. of the strength of the Guard went to the range for practice, and considering the limited time for practice at the encampments, more than half qualified as marksmen, and a goodly number showed much skill in the use of the rifle.

PROFICIENCY TABLE.

Order of Merit.	Organization.	Strength.	Practicing.	1st Class.	Marksmen.	Sharpshooters.	Figure of Merit.
1	General Staff.....	13	0	0	0	0	40.15
2	First Regiment.....	627	300	43	202	39	42.55
3	Second Regiment.....	565	239	62	63	12	19.60
4	E. L. Artillery.....	57	0	0	0	0	0
	Total National Guard.....	1252	605	105	271	51	30.42

Co. K, 1st Regiment, has the highest figure of merit: 60.63. Co. C, 2d Regiment, the lowest, 6.08. The following organizations not having sent fifty per cent. of their strength to the firing points, for practice, are published as delinquent: The 2d Regi-

ment, and the field staff and band, and Companies A, C, D, E, F, I, and K, of the same; Companies B, F, and I of the 1st Regiment; the Emmet Light Artillery, no practice. The 2d Regiment Team having made the greatest aggregate score is awarded the State Trophy, and the following marksmen will constitute the State Rifle Team for the current year: 2d Lieut. J. F. Cowie, F. 1st Regt., 62; Sergt. C. W. Carpenter, I, 2d Regt., 59; Sergt. Williams, I, 1st Regt., 58; Priv. Geo. S. Livermore, D, 2d Regt., 57; Priv. Geo. Eckles, D, 1st Regt., 56; 1st Lieut. Ira W. Castle, K, 1st Regt., 54; Sergt. A. R. Payne, D, 2d Regt., 54; Corp. R. F. Wollaston, D, 2d Regt., 54; Priv. Clarke, K, 1st Regt., 53; 2d Lieut. Bird, D, 2d Regt., 53; Sergt. I. V. J. Dodd, I, 2d Regt., 53; Priv. W. D. Warren, D, 2d Regt., 52. Alternates: 1st Lieut. C. H. Bullard, D, 2d Regt., 51; Sergt. Bacon, H, 1st Regt., 50.

MASSACHUSETTS.

THE report of Col. Horace T. Rockwell, Executive Officer of the State Rifle Matches at South Framingham, October 6, has been received. The following trophies are awarded: Field and Staff Trophy, to the field and staff team of the 1st Battalion of Cavalry. First trophy for company teams, Company Team, Co. D, 1st Regt., Inf. Second, Co. A, 2d Regt., Inf. Third, Co. G, 2d Regt., Inf. Fourth, Co. G, 1st Regt., Inf. Fifth, Co. E, 6th Regt., Inf. Sixth, Co. D, 1st Corps of Cadets. Special trophy, Company team showing greatest improvement over 1884, Co. B, 1st Regt., Inf. Special trophy for team using carbines, Co. D, 1st Batt. of Cav.

OFFICERS' MATCH.

First trophy, Capt. H. E. Whitney. Second, Maj. D. Clark, Surg. Third, Lt. L. H. Bateman. Fourth, Lt. E. W. Blankinship.

SOLDIERS' MATCHES.

1st Class.—First trophy to Pvt. C. W. Hinman; second, Corp. G. E. Worthen, 6th Inf.; third, Mus. M. W. Daulton, 8th Inf. 2d Class.—First trophy Pvt. A. Davis, G, 6th Inf.; second, Pvt. J. P. Reardon, F, 9th Inf.; third, Pvt. C. M. Flanders, H, 1st Inf. 3d Class.—First trophy, Corp. F. E. Benjamin, L, 8th Inf.; second, Corp. A. D. Jefferson, A, 2d Inf.; third, Pvt. L. Grant, D, 1st Cadets; fourth, Sergt. C. D. Fay, F, 6th Regt. Special trophy for score on team, Pvt. F. W. Scott, D, 1st Inf.

THE RODMAN DECISION.

In reference to the decision of the Second Comptroller in the case of Lieut. Rodman, 1st Art., which

appeared in the JOURNAL of Nov. 14, the N. Y. Herald says: "If the decision had been arrived at twelve months ago—at the beginning instead of the end of the adjustment of these cadet longevity claims—the Treasury would have saved at least \$200,000. But nearly all the claims have been settled, the graduates have received their money, and now the question which agitates the West Point is, What are they going to do about it? If the accounting officers reconsider the cases that have already been settled and charge back the amounts overpaid they will have to 'go back' on their formal certificates that certain amounts were due the claimants—a procedure of very doubtful legality. If they apply the principle of res adjudicata to the settled cases and mulet only those officers whose cases are yet to be adjusted, then the graduates who are unfortunate enough to bring up the rear of the column of longevity claimants will be at a decided disadvantage. The Comptroller's decision is of special interest to the young gentlemen who will be ready for their diplomas next June. As the Senate will no doubt be then in session they cannot be appointed until after they have been nominated and confirmed. Unless Congress steps in to their relief they will be without pay for a few weeks, and instead of the usual three months' leave, with full pay, 'to visit their friends and equip themselves for service,' as the Army regulations of 1835 express it, any time they may be absent in excess of one month will be on half pay."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E.—The 4th Auditor is awaiting evidence of the death of your mother before adjusting the claim for three months' pay in Mexican War due the estate of your father.

B.—There are no vacancies for chaplains, U. S. Army, at present. One regimental chaplain and three post chaplains will be retired for age in 1886.

Historian asks for a brief history of the U. S. S. Vermont, and also where the physical examination of naval pay clerks takes place? Ans.—The keel of the Vermont was laid in 1813, and she was launched at Boston, Mass., in 1814. 20 years after. She remained in ordinary at Boston until 1833, at which time she was ordered to be prepared for sea, but did not go. In 1862 she was sent to Port Royal, S. C., as a storeship. She was a receiving ship at New York from Jan., 1865, to 1874, and was in "Ordinary" at New York from 1875 to 1879. She has been a receiving ship at New York from 1880 to date.

2. Physical examinations of pay clerks are rarely made. The Paymaster is usually the judge of his clerks' physical condition.

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bunal to which a soldier has access?" Ans.—We do not understand the drift of your question. As you are serving at a military post where there is a post surgeon you have access to him.

J. R. R.—You have no claim to discharge under the circumstances stated.

New York Reader.—The age for the admission of cadets to the Military Academy is between seventeen and twenty-two years.

Private asks: Could a soldier in his third enlistment while on furlough, in Denver, make application through the recruiting officer there to be detailed on recruiting service, or would his chances for receiving the detail be better by going to New York City. Ans.—He could make application, but, as it would be irregular, it would not be likely to be entertained. The proper channel of application would be the soldier's company commander. It is seldom that anything is gained by departing from the established military system of preferring requests.

Z. Z. Z. asks: In deploying a company as skirmishers on right fours where is the deployment made? On No. 1 or No. 4, the right being in front? Ans.—On No. 4 of the front rank. We do not recall any "decision" about the matter, and hardly think that any question with regard to it has ever been raised, because the Infantry Tactics are so very plain as to exclude every vestige of doubt. General Upton, October 7, 1871, said as follows: "Skirmishers always deploy on No. 4. Par. 2, Cavalry Tactics, in this case cannot apply as the word 'four' is used instead of 'left,' which prevents the substitution of the word 'right' when the movement is executed on the right four."

1st Lieutenant asks: 1. It being the duty of all sentinels to repeat all calls made from posts more distant from the main body of the guard than his own, which is the correct way of calling? Ans.—"Corporal of the guard, No. 1" (without the word post). The sentry next nearest to the guardhouse takes it up and repeats without regard to his number, and so on until the call reaches No. 1, who repeats it to the corporal.

2. In calling the hours No. 1 starts. No. 2 follows by saying: "No. 2, No. 2, o'clock, all is well." No. 3 comes next, and when the word has been repeated by the entire chain of sentries, No. 1 announces: "All is well all around."

Roster.—Upton's Tactics, par. 433, companies right (or left) wheel. At command "march, etc., etc." the captain superintending the wheel moves by shortest line, etc., etc. Do captains face their companies to superintend the wheel? Paragraph 448 requires captains to face their companies "to observe the wheel." Here the captains face their companies during all wheels, from line into column and the reverse, from a halt or on the march. I am of opinion the question was decided by Upton sometime before his death, but I cannot now recall the number or date of the decision. Ans.—The custom at West Point, when General Upton was commandant of cadets, was for captain of companies to face the latter during all wheels, except when directed to place themselves on flank.

McC. B. asks: 1. Who would be required to make the affidavit under sec. 50, M. C. S. N. Y., which reads:

Any member of the National Guard who shall, when not on duty, wear any such uniform or equipments without the permission of his commanding officer shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$10 . . . and it is hereby made the duty of any police justice upon complaint duly made on affidavit, showing a violation of this section, to issue a warrant for the arrest of the offender, and to cause him to be brought before such police justice . . . to be dealt with according to law.

Ans.—Any one who is cognizant of the fact.

2. Are men and officers who go to Creedmoor, not on duty,

but simply to shoot in the marksman's matches, putting on their uniforms here to save themselves the trouble of carrying them to the range, but without their commanding officer's permission, punishable under this section? Ans.—Going to Creedmoor to shoot in matches is regarded as a quasi military duty.

3. Going to military balls, reunions, etc., in uniform, would they not again render themselves liable to punishment under this section? Ans.—No.

4. Has this section been enforced? Ans.—Never that we are aware of. The object of the law is to prevent the use of the uniforms for purposes not in the line of National Guard matters.

Sergeant asks: I enlisted in the N. G. S. N. Y. in 1878, served two years and six months, when the regiment was disbanded. I then re-enlisted again for five years in the infantry service, served two years and six months, and was transferred to the artillery service at my own request, having thus far done 100 per cent. duty in all the above. What I desire to know is whether my term of service expires on the 14th of February next. If I re-enlist am I not entitled to wear two service chevrons, one blue and one red? If not, how many and what color? Ans.—The Regulations provide for a service chevron for those who have served faithfully for one term of enlistment—that is the full term of five years. A term that is interrupted by the disbandment is not a full term. The service chevron should be uniform with the branch of service with which the member is connected. No provision is made for two colors.

Ignoro asks: 1. Does the State of Illinois or any other State in the Union keep their own militia cavalry horses, or do they hire horses for the occasion whenever the aforesaid arm is called out by the State? Ans.—No State has a permanent horse establishment for any mounted troops it may maintain. In many cases the horses of cavalry State troops are owned by the men themselves; in a few the State hires them when required.

2. Does the State of Illinois find horses for and pay the militia every time they turn out, or only in case the State Government calls them out? Ans.—The Illinois law says: "The enlisted men of the National Guard shall receive \$1 for each day's service, with transportation and necessary ration, at any parade or encampment authorized by law; and each mounted non-commissioned officer, musician and private shall receive, in addition to the above, \$1 per day for forage for his horse; and the commander of each battery shall be allowed \$1 per day and forage for each horse necessary for moving the same."

L. S. H. asks: Can Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan vote? Ans.—If he has acquired a residence at any special place in the United States not in the District of Columbia he can vote there.

M. F.—Can a company commander compel an enlisted man to pay a wash bill or a company tailor's bill? Ans.—He may not be able to compel him to pay, but he certainly can secure his punishment for not paying just dues to the laundress and company tailor.

Militiaman asks: 1. What code or system of tactics of light artillery and infantry is used by the U. S. Army and which by the N. G. S. N. Y.? Ans.—Both use the U. S. Light Artillery Tactics.

2. What are the boundaries of the 11th Congressional District, N. Y.? Ans.—It includes the district between 16th and 32d Streets, inclusive, and the North River and 7th Avenue, and also the blocks between 6th and 7th Avenues and 19th and 23d Streets, inclusive.

R. S. S. asks: 1. Does par. 796, Upton's Tactics, apply to officers returning the salute? Ans.—Officers are obliged to return all salutes tendered them by enlisted men,

but par. 796 does not apply so far as saluting with the hand further from the person saluted is concerned, because officers always salute with the right hand.

2. Marching at company front and the captain orders the guides to change places, do the guides pass in rear of the company or in front? Ans.—When there are two guides to a company they do not "change places," but if there is only one guide and he is required to pass to the opposite flank, he does so in front of the company. See par. 258 of the Tactics.

3. How far is Fort Myer, Va., from Washington, D. C.? Ans.—About 5 or 6 miles.

A MACHINE GUN'S VALUE.


In a recent lecture before the Royal United Service Institution by Major M. R. West, Royal Horse Artillery, advocating the adoption of the one-barrel machine gun for land service, the lecturer pointed out that there was great undeveloped power and value in the machine gun for land service. With garrison artillery its value for the flanking of ditches was obvious. Then, too, they could be used in resisting or in covering landings, and he advocated the use of two in each squadron of cavalry, displaying a pack on which the gun might be mounted on a horse, and further suggested that they could be used on outposts, detached posts, advance and rear guards, and for the holding of defiles and bridges. He also contended for the value of a machine gun on the limber of a 9-pounder, for instance, for the protection of a battery when limbered up from the attacks of cavalry, and he explained the working of the gun by infantry.

Lord Charles Beresford, who was warmly received, next gave some of his own experience with the machine guns in Egypt, remarking that the trial on land in Alexandria after the fire was proof of the possibility of a small body armed with machine guns dealing with large bodies of people. He expressed, however, his preference for a machine gun of the three or four barrel type, as giving the value of a service of riflemen at once and a tremendous power in the volley firing. He remarked, too, upon the use the French had made of the machine gun at Sfax, and added that the British had not in the service a weapon which could do a similar service. He urged the necessity of a more general adoption of the machine guns in the British service.

Major-General Laurie dwelt upon the immense service which had been rendered in the North-western rebellion by machine guns of the Gatling type; and Admiral Arthur bore testimony to the value of the machine gun on board ship, particularly as a range finder. General Smythe expressed his doubts as to the working of the machine guns in the field, and of the difficulties caused by rough ground. After other speakers, Lord Wolseley stated, amid cheers, that the army of this country must have machine guns, and that the authorities had decided that the land service was to have that armament. The type of guns was yet to be decided, and experience would develop the tactical use of the weapon. He considered that the great value of the machine guns had been proved in the Sudan war, but for his part he would not pin himself to a one-

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barrel gun, regarding it as necessary that there should be several barrels to each gun, as in the Nordenfildt guns, with which Lord Beresford "pumped lead" into the enemy's gunners, when below Khartoum, the rescue of Sir Charles Wilson's party had to be effected.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

POLO, the national game of a Tibeto-Burmese tribe, says an exchange, known in India as the Muni-puri, is of Tartar origin, and was introduced by a Rajah in 1570.

THE British Columbia Government some time ago made representations respecting the defenses of that

portion of the Dominion, and a correspondence is now going on in relation to the matter.

It has been decided to offer a limited number of Direct Commissions in the English Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers to open competition. Candidates to be not more than 22 years of age.

THE El Paso Times says: "Advices from the City of Mexico indicate that radical changes and reforms are contemplated in the army and navy of our sister republic. If he is invested with the power to make them, President Diaz will abolish the present system of military zones and create a limited number of divisions."

THERE is not a single correspondent with either the Serbian or Bulgarian army; and the telegraphic versions of the engagements which have been

fought have been subjected to a severe censorship. The English are unpopular, and the only correspondents who can make their way successfully in this part of Europe are the Austrians, who speak the local language. The successes scored by Mr. Forbes and Mr. McGahan in Bulgaria in 1876 were in the rear of the Russian advance.

A COMPANY of the Chasseurs-a-Pied stationed at Besancon are to be supplied with magazine rifles in order to carry out exhaustive trials to ascertain the merits of these weapons. According to the Paris, it is intended to arm several Chasseur battalions with Gras rifles fitted with a magazine holding seven cartridges, the rifles to be shortened so as to bring the weight of rifle and magazine down to the weight of the ordinary Gras rifle.

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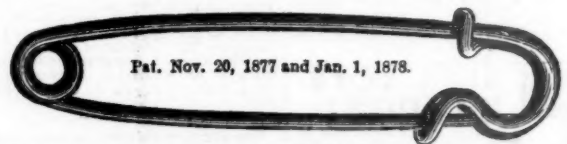
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The first of the fifty torpedo-boats, "No. 25," ordered at the time of the Russian scare, has arrived at Portsmouth. She is 125 ft. long, and her deck is flush with the gunwale, which is considerably higher out of the water than in former boats. There is greater accommodation for the crew. The new boat is of a peculiar shape, having a long rounded snout, through which a torpedo is discharged above water right ahead. But the greatest novelty introduced are two conning towers, which are built forward and aft. On the outside of them are attached two torpedo tubes arranged parallel to each other, which are to be made to revolve with the towers by means of rollers working upon circular racers.

In an article on the use of bicycles for war, the *Russki Invalid* urges that a number should be placed at the disposition of the Russian Army, to

enable the soldiers to become expert in using them. Russia itself is not particularly well adapted for bicycles, owing to the general badness of the roads, but the Army might have to conduct operations abroad, and in that case a few experts would be valuable. The *Russki Invalid* adds that the use of bicycles might be made part of the gymnastic training of the troops, replacing exercise of a less useful character.

The *Admiralty Gazette* says: One of the advantages of the Hotchkiss 6-pounder and 3-pounder quick-firing guns is prominently brought forward in the new "Gunnery Drill-book for the Fleet," wherein we find it pointed out that "in the Nordenfeldt guns the firing lock can be set to act by the same motion of the lever that closes the breech; but this will seldom, if ever, be necessary on service,

therefore the index should always be set for firing by trigger. In the Hotchkiss gun the trigger is the only means by which the gun can be fired." This double action of the Nordenfeldt gun may give rise to serious accidents, as bluejackets are not always as careful as they are expected to be by inventors.

M. EUGENE GODARD is preparing to make a trial at Paris of a new military balloon, which he calls the "dynamiteuse des airs," intended for taking observations of and bombarding besieged towns. It is of 16,000 feet capacity, or ten times the size of the captive military balloons which have usually been tried at Meudon. It can be filled in five and twenty minutes, and is made entirely of silk, besides being fitted with an immense parachute invented by M. Godard himself. According to its inventor it is fire-proof, and even if pierced with several projectiles

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MARRIED.

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COOPER, Haytian Navy, to ALICE MORRIS, daughter of
Hamilton H. Salmon, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

DIED.

PACK.—At sea, Nov. 5, Lieutenant RANSOME B. PROK,
U. S. Navy, (instead of at Vallejo, Cal., November 24, as er-
roneously reported last week.)

ADAIR.—At Post of San Antonio, Texas, Nov. 19, of pneu-
monia, Saddler DAVID T. ADAIR, of Troop C, 8th Cavalry,
aged 57 years. Saddler Adair had served continuously for
nineteen years in Troop C, and was well liked by officers
and men.

MARYE.—At the U. S. Arsenal, Augusta, Georgia, Novem-
ber 23, MADIE MAY, beloved wife of Major W. A. Marye,
Ordinance Corps, U. S. A., and daughter of the late James T.
Marye, of Port Gibson, Miss., in the 25th year of her age.
Final interment in Baltimore, Md.

MCGINNIS.—Suddenly, at St. Louis, Mo., November 24,
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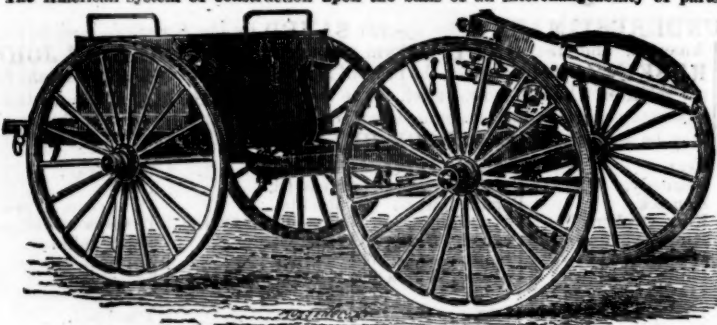
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41 shots, 15 hits.

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FIG. 3.—GATLING GUN MOUNTED ON A TRIPOD.

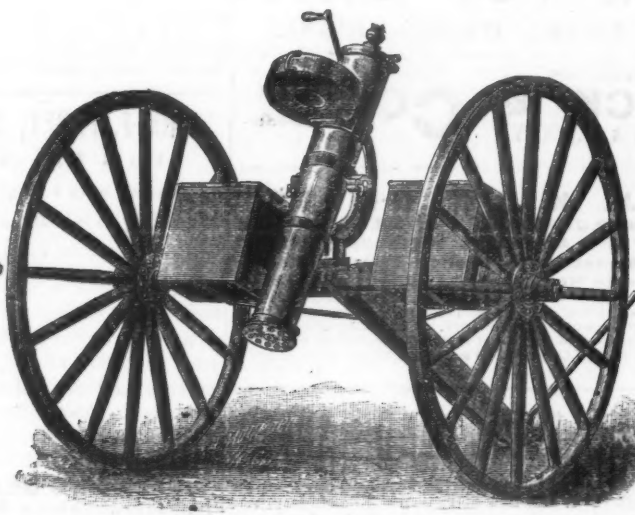


FIG. 4.—SHOWING DEPRESSION AT WHICH GATLING CAN BE FIRED.

The first of the two illustrations here given represents the Gatling Gun, ten barrels, mounted on a tripod, showing the Accles positive feeder. One feeder is on the Gun ready for firing and one is shown on the ground. The second illustration shows the Gatling Gun, ten barrels, United States Government model, mounted on the United States Army carriage, showing the depression at which the Gun can be fired. 1,200 shots have been fired in one minute from this Gun. The ordinary rate of rapid firing is about 1,000 shots per minute.

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